COMPLETE AND UTTER TERROR...

The missions continue in *Apocalypse Meow*, Volume 2, as Perky, Rats and Botaski—the Roadrunners of the Special Operations Group—face imprisonment, collateral damage and death. This time, their latest orders expose them to the tragic brutality of the conflict, but do they possess the gumption to vanquish their enemies?

APOCALYPSE
MEOW
VOL. 2

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APOCALYPSE MEOW VOL. 2

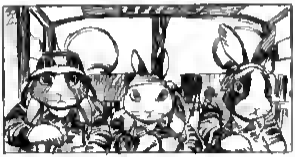
MOTOFUMI KOBAYASHI

MISSION: 10
Year of the Monkey
RANGER!
WHO THE HELL ARE THEY?
JAPANESE TRAINEES. THEY JUST GRADUATED FROM THE [1]RECONDO SCHOOL IN [2]NHA TRANG.
I WANT YOUR TEAM TO TAKE THEM INTO THE FIELD, AND TRAIN THEM ON SILENT INFILTRATION AND RECON TECHNIQUES.
THAT SEEMS A BIT RECKLESS, MAJOR.
CAPTAIN IKEDA HERE'S THEIR LEADER. AND THIS IS LIEUTENANT SATO, SERGEANT MAJOR SAITO AND SERGEANT NAKAMURA.
RANGER!
COULD YOU STOP CALLING ME "RANGER"?
THIS IS YOUR COMMANDER, SERGEANT PERKINS.
THESE MEN ARE NOT HERE. DO YOU FOLLOW ME? IF ANYONE ASKS, THEY'RE [3]KOREANS OR [4]YARDS.
THAT'S RECKLESS, TOO.
HEY, MAJOR!

[1] Recondo School = LRRP (Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol) training school located in Nha Trang. It was originally formed as an extension of Project Delta.

[2] Nha Trang = A city in central South Vietnam. The US Army's 5th Special Forces Group was headquartered there.

[3] Korean Army = The Republic of Korea (ROK) sent three divisions of troops to Vietnam to help the Americans fight against North Vietnam—the White Horse, Blue Dragon and Tiger divisions.



[4] Yard = A corruption of *Montagnard* (French "mountain people") the minority tribes trained by U.S. special forces

[5] BDQ = Abbreviation of *Biệt Động Quân* Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) Rangers. A number of U.S. officers served as advisers to ARVN units throughout the war

HM! HM!
RATS, YOU'RE THE POINTMAN. SHOW OUR GUESTS HOW IT'S DONE.
ROGER.
IT STINKS.
NAKAMURA, LEAD THE WAY
EEP!
MONKEY!
JUST DO WHAT I SAY, ALRIGHT?
CHICO, KIT! WATCH OUR FLANKS!
MEOW
CAPTAIN IKEDA, SMALLER RECON TEAMS ARE YOUR BEST BET.
THE MORE PEOPLE YOU HAVE, THE EASIER YOU ARE TO FIND AND NEVER WALK ON THE PATHS.
THE JUNGLE'S GOT BAD VISIBILITY. ONLY 30 METERS AT BEST.

YOU MIGHT HAVE TO FIGHT AT CLOSE RANGE, SO ALWAYS BE READY TO FIRE.
YOUR TEAM LEADER SHOULD ALWAYS BE AWARE OF YOUR CURRENT LOCATION.
HEH HEH
FOR LANDMARKS YOU CAN USE MOUNTAIN RIDGES, OR COUNT STEPS, OR WHATEVER, AND USE YOUR COMPASS.
HAVE MORE THAN ONE OF YOU COUNT STEPS, AND THEN USE THE AVERAGE

*Roughly translated: "No, not at all."

!
CAPTAIN IKEDA, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO COVER YOUR TRACKS. THE ENEMY ARE EXPERT TRACKERS
PERKY!
WHAT? REALLY?!
JACKPOT.
YES! BOTASKI, CALL IT IN.
?
PUN

GET DOWN!
!
WHAT THE HELL'S WITH THIS GUY?
HUH?
HER HER
WE'RE FALLING BACK. CAPTAIN IKEDA, GUARD THE REAR.
WHAT IS IT, NAKAMURA?
MY STOMACH HURTS
KEEP AN EYE ON THE GUY WITH GLASSES.
MAN, I HATE MONKEYS.
MEOW!
HEH!
THE REAR GUARD IS VERY IMPORTANT WHEN YOU'RE ON RECON.
GRASS, LEAVES, FOOTPRINTS... MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LEAVE ANY TRACE, OR THE ENEMY WILL TRACK YOU.

SZ!
THEY EVEN LOOK FOR BROKEN SPIDER WEBS.
BAM!!
MEOW!
WHAT HAPPENED?
A TRAP MINE WENT OFF.
THIS IS BAD. MOVE THE TANKS AND DISPATCH A SEARCH UNIT.
I'M A SOLDIER IN THE CHINESE VOLUNTEER ARMY I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM A RUSSIAN!
IDIOT MAO ZEDONG-FOLLOWING PANDA. ALL THAT BAMBOO MUST'VE ROTTED AWAY HIS BRAIN.
VIETNAMESE COMRADES!
FIND THE AMERICAN IMPERIALIST SPIES!
MEOW!
BE VERY CAREFUL, RATS.
ROGER!
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO, NAKAMURA?!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, HONEST!

FOR EVERY HOUR OF MOVEMENT, STOP 15 MINUTES TO LOOK FOR SIGNS OF THE ENEMY.
IT ONLY TAKES ONE ATTACK TO WIPE OUT A SMALL PATROL LIKE THIS.
RATS, TAKE TURNS ON WATCH
WHEN YOU'RE PICKING A SITE TO REST, BEING ABLE TO STAY HIDDEN IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN DEFENSIBILITY
I SEE.
THAT GUY WITH THE GLASSES IS LOOKING AT US
IGNORE HIM.
CAPTAIN IKEDA, IS YOUR PRESENCE HERE IN VIETNAM UNOFFICIAL?
OUR SELF-DEFENSE FORCES ARE PROHIBITED FROM ENGAGING IN WAR.
YOU MEAN, IT'S A LAW?
YES. THE PEACE CONSTITUTION WAS DRAFTED TWENTY YEARS AGO, DURING THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION.
LATER, DURING THE KOREAN WAR, A RESERVE POLICE FORCE WAS ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH THE COMMUNISTS. THAT BECAME THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES.

OUR CONSTITUTION SAYS IF ATTACKED, WE COULD COUNTER-ATTACK MAYBE.
THAT'S A TOUGH ONE.
PERKY!
CHICO SAYS HE SAW MOVEMENT.
WHAT'D YOU SEE, CHICO?
MEOW!
MEOW MEOW!
TWENTY NVAS, HEADING EAST.
RATS, CHICO, YOU'RE THE POINTMEN. MOVE SLOWLY, AND WATCH OUT FOR AN AMBUSH.
AVOID RIDGES AND VALLEYS, AND KEEP OUR GUESTS IN THE MIDDLE.
ROGER!
THIS IS BAD. WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED...

COMRADE, LOOK!
AN AMERICAN CANTEEN THEY PASSED THROUGH HERE
HEY, FOUR-EYES!
WHAT?
WHERE'S YOUR CANTEEN?
Oh, no ..
DON'T COME NEAR ME. YOU STINK.
!

SSH!
!
HR
HR
RATS, HIDE THE BODY.
AND COVER OUR TRACKS! WE DON'T WANT THEM FINDING US.
STUPID GOD-DAMN MONKEY! THIS IS YOUR FAULT!
LOOK, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
NAKAMURA! KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN, YOU FOOL!
SHOOT!

[7]VC = Viet Cong

[8]FAC = Forward Air Control: low-flying planes used to coordinate air-ground operations and identify targets for attack

I'M BETTIN' THE [7]VC ARE GONNA AMBUSH US FROM THE FRONT, THERE.
FINE. WE'LL DETOUR, QUIETLY.
BOTASKI, CALL [8]FAC AND REQUEST EVAC.
ROGER!
THINGS ARE NOT GOOD, CAPTAIN IKEDA. YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR A FIREFIGHT.
I UNDERSTAND.
PERKY! FAC'S COMING IN AT LOW ALTITUDE. THINGS'RE GONNA GET CRAZY...
Leave it to us, Cat Shit One!

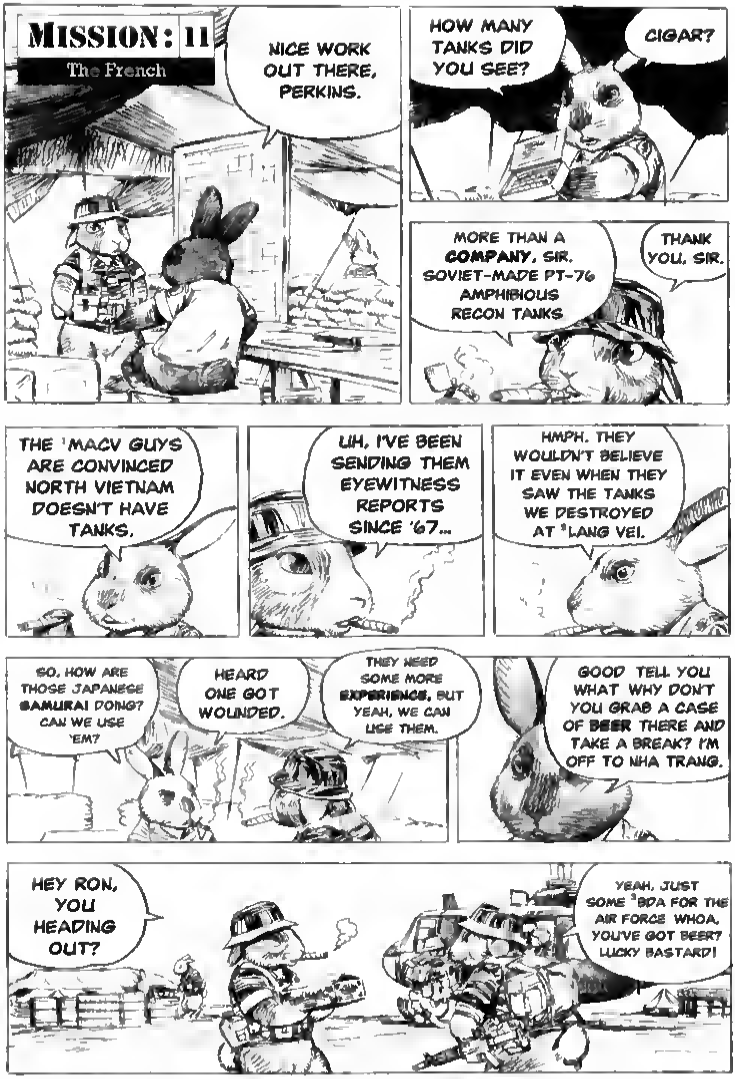
VYRRROOOM
PAPAPAPAM!
IMPERIALIST SCUM!
PAPAPAM!
Zip Zip Zip!
GET DOWN!
GRENADES!
BAOM! BAM! BAM!
MOVE IT!
TOTOTOK!

*Prick = Slang term for the AN/PRC-25 field radio the [illegible] device most commonly used in the Vietnam war. *PRC 25* stands for "Portable Radio Communications."

PAPAPAM!
PAPAM!
SHIT!
PAPAM!
LET'S MOVE!
TOTOTOTK!
YAAAAAA!
PAPAM!
TOTOTOTOTOTOTK!
ZIP
COME ON, GET UP!
BAOM!

SERGEANT MAJOR SAITO IS INJURED
VRRROOOO
THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE. WE'RE PINNED DOWN! REQUESTING EVAC.
Stay down, Cat Shit One. We're dropping a big one on the other side of the mountain.
WAUGH!
ZZIP
WHAT?!
PAPAM PAPAM!
BI'LOOOM!

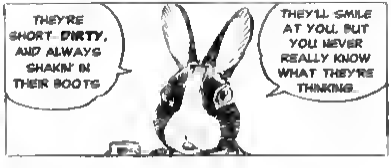
[10] *Fuel Air Bomb* = A type of bomb that consists of a container of fuel and two explosive charges. It was first developed during the Vietnam War to clear jungles for helicopter landing sites. It was also effective in destroying personnel and heavy equipment, and attacking enemy positions.

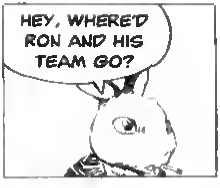

MISSION: 11
The French
NICE WORK OUT THERE, PERKINS.
HOW MANY TANKS DID YOU SEE?
CIGAR?
MORE THAN A COMPANY, SIR. SOVIET-MADE PT-76 AMPHIBIOUS RECON TANKS
THANK YOU, SIR.
THE [1]MACV GUYS ARE CONVINCED NORTH VIETNAM DOESN'T HAVE TANKS.
UH, I'VE BEEN SENDING THEM EYEWITNESS REPORTS SINCE '67...
HMPH. THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT EVEN WHEN THEY SAW THE TANKS WE DESTROYED AT [2]LANG VEI.
SO, HOW ARE THOSE JAPANESE SAMURAI DOING? CAN WE USE 'EM?
HEARD ONE GOT WOUNDED.
THEY NEED SOME MORE EXPERIENCE, BUT YEAH, WE CAN USE THEM.
GOOD TELL YOU WHAT WHY DON'T YOU GRAB A CASE OF BEER THERE AND TAKE A BREAK? I'M OFF TO NHA TRANG.
HEY RON, YOU HEADING OUT?
YEAH, JUST SOME [3]BDA FOR THE AIR FORCE WHOA, YOU'VE GOT BEER? LUCKY BASTARD!

[1] *MACV* = Military Assistance Command / Vietnam. The main American military command unit that had responsibility for and authority over all U.S. military activities in Vietnam.

[2] *Lang Vei* = Location of the US Special Forces Base for the Northern Region of South Vietnam. It was attacked by PT-76 tanks during the Tet Offensive.

[3] *BDA* = Bomb Damage Assessment. Visual evaluation of the secret B-52 bombings of the Ho Chi Minh trail was one responsibility of the Special Forces Reconnaissance Team.





[4] *Number ten* = "The worst." The opposite is "number one," meaning "the best."

HEY, RON!
WHAT?
THE YARD SAYS THERE'S TROUBLE.
PAPAPAPAM!
PAPAPAM
ZIP
ZIP
ZIP
BAM!
RETURN FIRE!
TOTONK
ZIP

*RTO = Radio Telephone Operator

DAMN! RON'S [2]RT IS NUMBER [3]10,000!
THERE'S THIS ONE PLACE I WENT TO IN BANGKOK FOR SOME [4]R&R... YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE GIRLS THERE!
WHAT PLACE?
HEY, I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T LIKE ORIENTALS
GIRLS ARE DIFFERENT.
BWAHAHA!
SERGEANT PERKINS, THERE'S AN URGENT MISSION.
RON'S TEAM GOT WIPED OUT?!
I GOT THE REPORT FROM THE FAC. LOOKS LIKE IT WAS AN AMBUSH. [5]MIKE FORCE IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
JUST A TRAINING MISSION, MAJOR CHI.

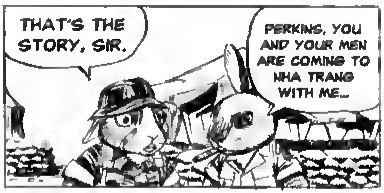
[2] *RT* = Reconnaissance Team

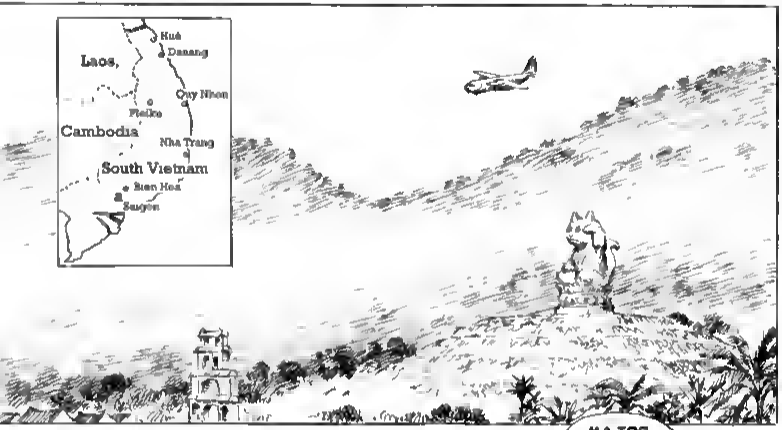
[3] *Number 10 000* = Even worse than number ten for example the pits.

[4] *R&R* = Rest and Recuperation U S soldiers were given one week of R&R every six months during their tour in Vietnam

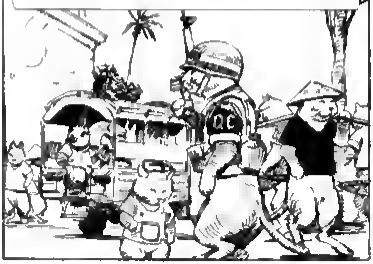
WE'LL LAND THERE.
WHAT HAPPENED? DID CHARLIE KNOW THEY WERE COMING?
DUNNO. THERE WAS AN AMBUSH, AND THEY WERE ALL EXECUTED.
EXECUTED?
YUP. ONE SHOT TO THE HEAD. ONLY ONE YARD SURVIVED.
RATS, ASK HIM WHAT HAPPENED.
WHAT'D HE SAY?!
HE SAID SOME FRENCHMAN WAS LEADING THE VCS. HE WAS THE ONE WHO SHOT RON
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
MEOW, MEOWRR.
MEOW MEOW!
bang
YEAH APPARENTLY, RON INSULTED HIM.
LET'S GO TAKE CARE OF THOSE FRENCHIES.
FIRST, WE TALK TO THE MAJOR. I BET THIS IS THE GUY I SAW BEFORE
I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS.

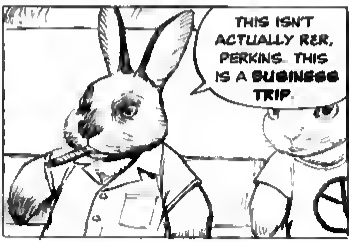
Mike Force = A fighting force of *Montagnards* trained by US Special Forces. Mike is a corruption of "Mobile strIKE."

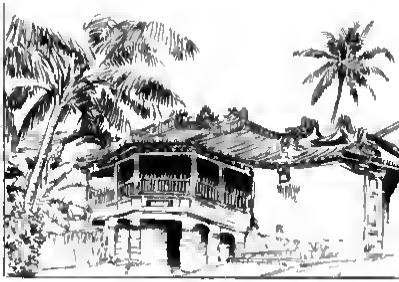




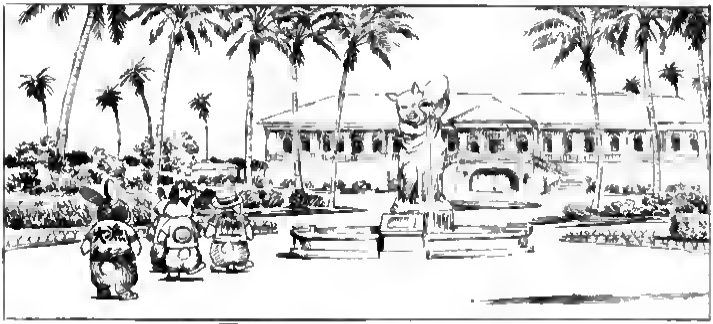
The headquarters of the 5th Special Forces Group, the Recondo School, a US Air Force Base, and the headquarters of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces were all located in the South Vietnamese city of Nha Trang.

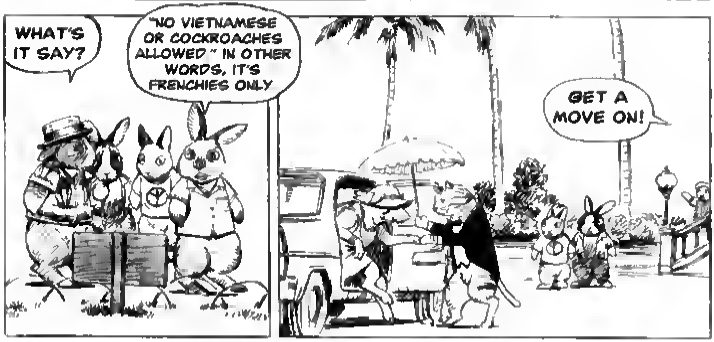


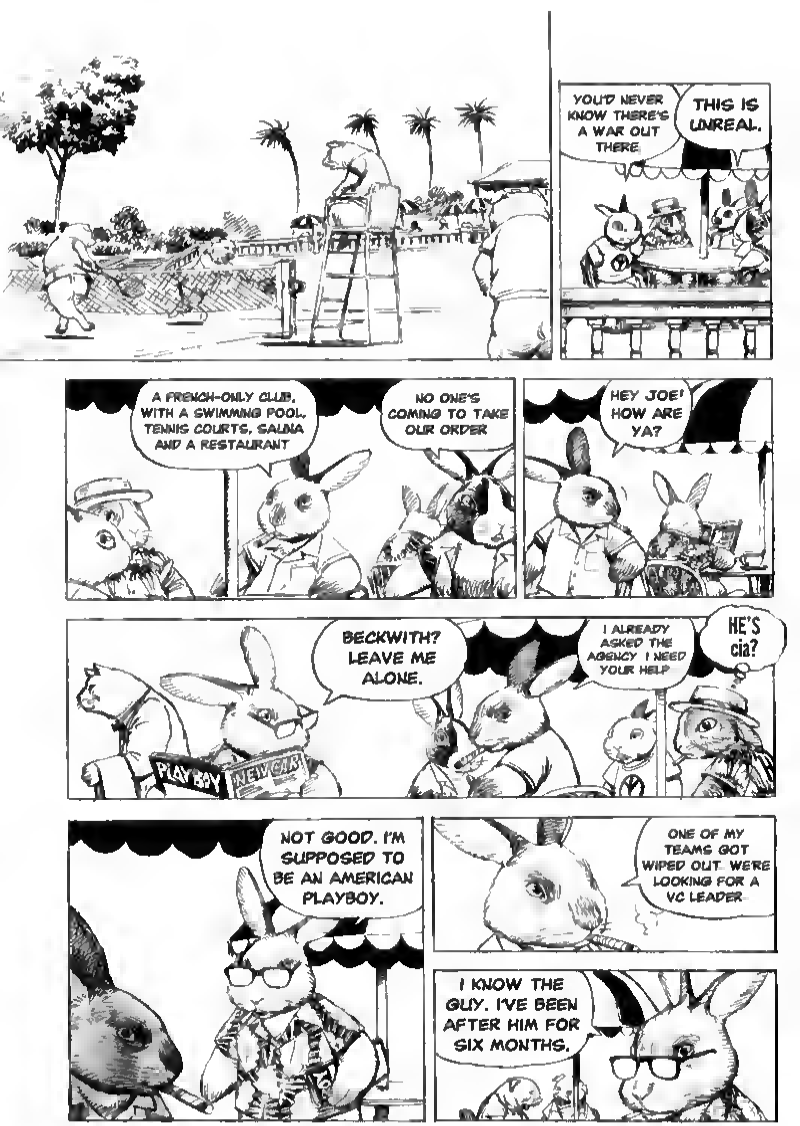


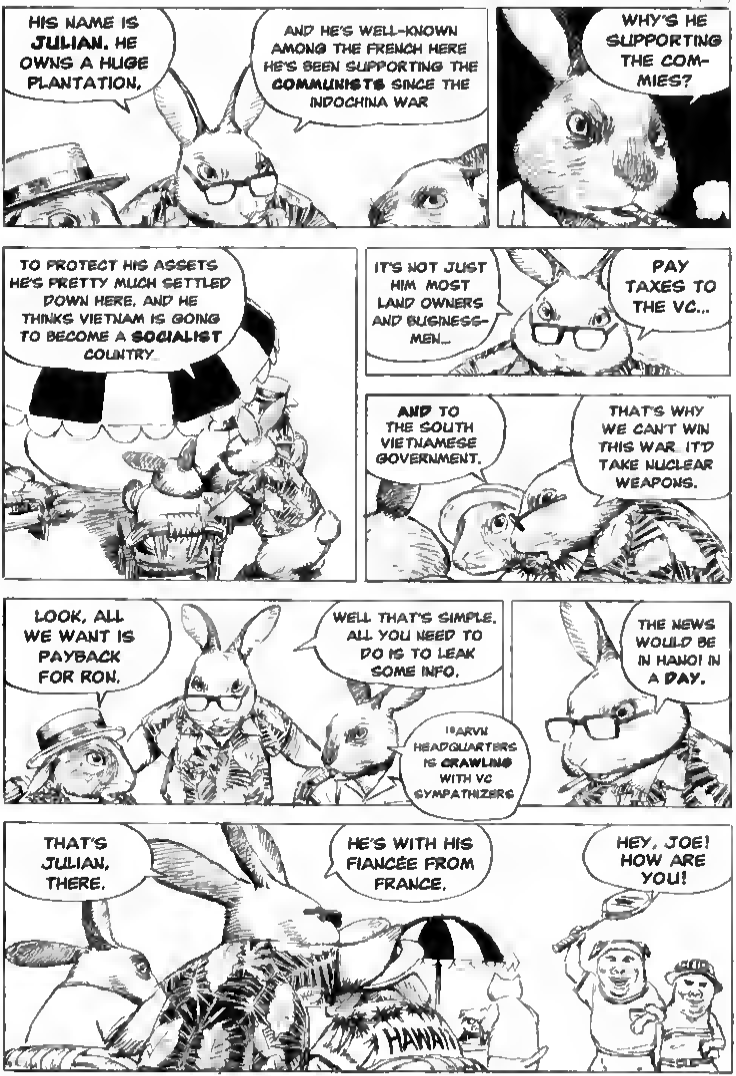


HEY, BABY!




WHAT'S IT SAY?
"NO VIETNAMESE OR COCKROACHES ALLOWED." IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S FRENCHIES ONLY
GET A MOVE ON!


YOU'D NEVER KNOW THERE'S A WAR OUT THERE.
THIS IS UNREAL.
A FRENCH-ONLY CLUB, WITH A SWIMMING POOL, TENNIS COURTS, SAUNA AND A RESTAURANT
NO ONE'S COMING TO TAKE OUR ORDER
HEY JOE! HOW ARE YA?
BECKWITH? LEAVE ME ALONE.
I ALREADY ASKED THE AGENCY I NEED YOUR HELP
HE'S cia?
PLAYBOY
NEWSWEEK
NOT GOOD. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE AN AMERICAN PLAYBOY.
ONE OF MY TEAMS GOT WIPED OUT. WE'RE LOOKING FOR A VC LEADER
I KNOW THE GUY. I'VE BEEN AFTER HIM FOR SIX MONTHS.

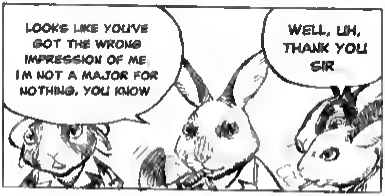

HIS NAME IS JULIAN. HE OWNS A HUGE PLANTATION,
AND HE'S WELL-KNOWN AMONG THE FRENCH HERE HE'S BEEN SUPPORTING THE COMMUNISTS SINCE THE INDOCHINA WAR
WHY'S HE SUPPORTING THE COMMIES?
TO PROTECT HIS ASSETS HE'S PRETTY MUCH SETTLED DOWN HERE, AND HE THINKS VIETNAM IS GOING TO BECOME A SOCIALIST COUNTRY.
IT'S NOT JUST HIM. MOST LAND OWNERS AND BUSINESSMEN...
PAY TAXES TO THE VC...
AND TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT.
THAT'S WHY WE CAN'T WIN THIS WAR. IT'D TAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
LOOK, ALL WE WANT IS PAYBACK FOR RON.
WELL THAT'S SIMPLE. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TO LEAK SOME INFO.
[10]ARVN HEADQUARTERS IS CRAWLING WITH VC SYMPATHIZERS
THE NEWS WOULD BE IN HANOI IN A DAY.
THAT'S JULIAN, THERE.
HE'S WITH HIS FIANCÉE FROM FRANCE.
HANA!
HEY, JOE! HOW ARE YOU!

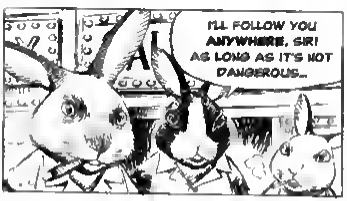
[10]*ARVN* = Army of the Republic of Vietnam: the South Vietnamese regular army

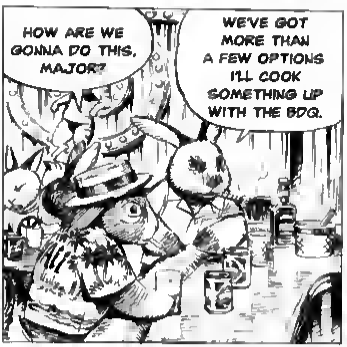
HOW'S BUSINESS? AND WHO ARE THEY?
I JUST MET THEM AT TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE.
NO ONE'S TAKEN YOUR ORDER.
I COULD GO FOR A COLD BEER.
THERE'S NONE OF THAT HERE. ONLY WINE AND CHAMPAGNE
GARÇON!
OUI, MONSIEUR.
WELL, ENJOY YOURSELVES IT'S MY TREAT.
LET'S PLAY SQUASH SOON.
NOW [1]AMSCRAY, BEFORE YOU BLOW MY COVER.
I OWE YOU ONE. SEE YA.

[1] *Amscray* = Slang for "scram"

TODAY, EVERYTHING'S ON ME.
WOW! REALLY, MAJOR?
YOU'LL BLOW ALL YOUR SALARY...
MP


LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG IMPRESSION OF ME. I'M NOT A MAJOR FOR NOTHING, YOU KNOW
WELL, UH, THANK YOU SIR


I'LL FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE, SIR! AS LONG AS IT'S NOT DANGEROUS...


HOW ARE WE GONNA DO THIS, MAJOR?
WE'VE GOT MORE THAN A FEW OPTIONS I'LL COOK SOMETHING UP WITH THE BDQ.

THESE SAIGON ARVNS CAN'T KEEP A SECRET TO SAVE THEIR LIVES...

AND THE VC INTELLIGENCE NETWORK WILL ACT ON LEAKED INFO THAT SAME DAY

WELCOME BACK, MAJOR.
LOSE THE SALUTE AND CALL MAJOR CHI FOR A STRATEGY BRIEFING
HOW'RE YOU DOING, BOTASKI?
GIEH I'M GONNA PUKE!
NOT HERE, ASSHOLE

ARE YOU CERTAIN THIS IS THE VC HEADQUARTERS, MAJOR BECKWITH?
IT CAME FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE, MAJOR CHI.
I'LL CONTACT SAIGON TOMORROW AND ASK THEM TO APPROVE THE MISSION.
I'D LIKE TO BORROW TWO RANGER COMPANIES FROM NHA TRANG
GOOD, THEY'RE CRACK UNITS WE'LL ASK THEM TO LEAD THE ATTACK.
LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME, MAJOR BECKWITH.
WE'LL LEAVE IN TWO DAYS
ROGER
I'LL GO IN FIRST
STAY IN TOUCH WITH CAPTAIN HENRY, THE MILITARY ADVISER.
Two Days Later...

HUM! HUM!

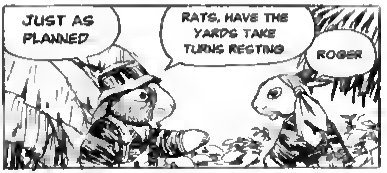
CAT SHIT ONE, THIS IS BLACK CAT.

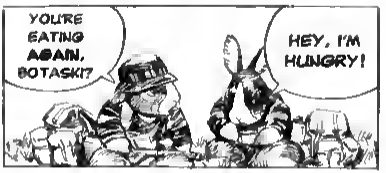
WE COPY YOU, BLACK CAT, COME IN

LOOKS LIKE QUITE THE ROYAL ENTOURAGE ANYTHING ON YOUR END?

ALL QUIET SO FAR.
LET'S DO THIS ACCORDING TO PLAN, ALRIGHT?

DON'T WORRY. THERE'S NO WAY THEY'RE LEAVING THE ROAD OVER.


JUST AS PLANNED
RATS, HAVE THE YARDS TAKE TURNS RESTING
ROGER

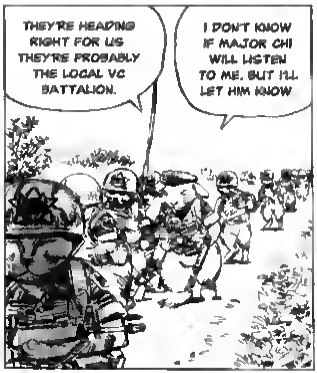

YOU'RE EATING AGAIN, BOTASKI?
HEY, I'M HUNGRY!

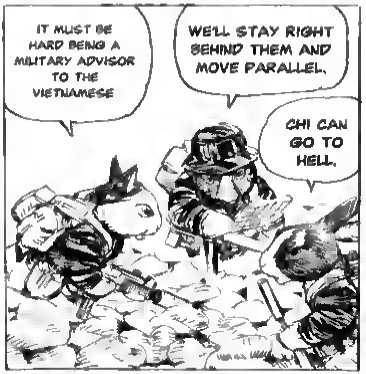
SAY, RATS?
FORGET IT! I ALREADY GAVE YOU SOME RATIONS.
NO. THAT'S NOT IT. I DON'T FEEL GOOD.
YEAH, CUZ YOU ATE TOO MUCH. GO IN THE BUSHES, DAMMIT
FINE.
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM? I JUST GOTTA TAKE A DUMP
HNGRR... IT WON'T COME OUT
!

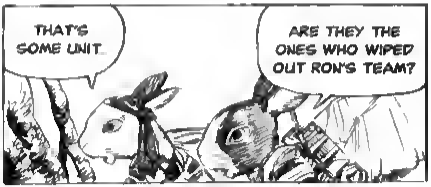
HOLY SHIT!

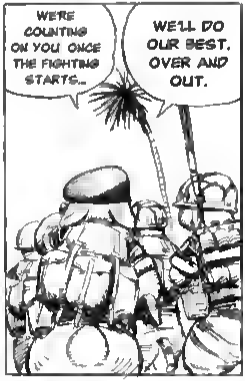
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, COMRADE?
IS IT ME, OR DOES SOMETHING STINK?

THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE WE'VE SIGHTED THE VC. THERE'S A LOT OF THEM, MOVING NORTH.


THEY'RE HEADING RIGHT FOR US THEY'RE PROBABLY THE LOCAL VC BATTALION.
I DON'T KNOW IF MAJOR CHI WILL LISTEN TO ME, BUT I'LL LET HIM KNOW


IT MUST BE HARD BEING A MILITARY ADVISOR TO THE VIETNAMESE
WE'LL STAY RIGHT BEHIND THEM AND MOVE PARALLEL.
CHI CAN GO TO HELL.

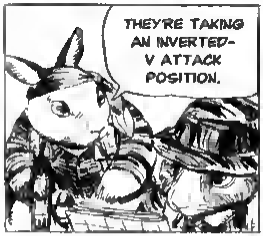


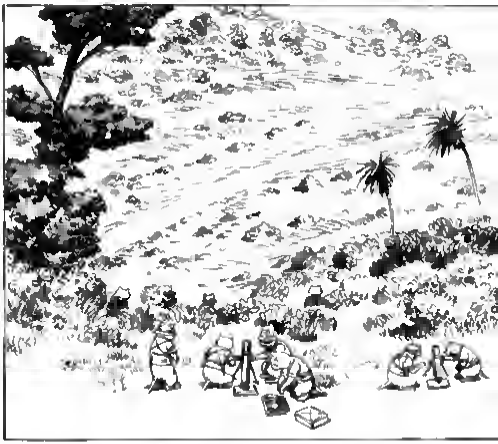


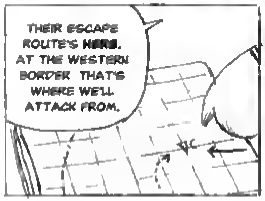
[13] *RPG* = RPG-2 Anti Tank Rocket Launcher The typical rocket-based weapon of the Communists

IT'S OBVIOUSLY SOME FALSE RUMOR SPREAD BY THE AMERICANS
WE'LL REST HERE. FETCH ME SOME WINE!

NO, HUH? OKAY, BUT BE READY TO FIGHT.
MEOW!


THEY'RE TAKING AN INVERTED-V ATTACK POSITION.




THEIR ESCAPE ROUTE'S HERE. AT THE WESTERN BORDER. THAT'S WHERE WE'LL ATTACK FROM.

THE PUPPET ARMY. DRAW THEM IN CLOSE!

FIRE!
KOWKOW
PA.PA.PA.M
POWK!
BAMM!
SHH.!
BAKOW!
BAOW!
CHENK!
ZIP
ZIP
MEOWR!
GET DOWN AND RETURN FIRE!

IT'S STARTED! BOTASKI, GET ON THE HORN!
PAP PA DO
PAPA
CAT SHIT ONE TO THUNDERBOLT, OVER.
THIS IS THUNDERBOLT SIX.
WE'RE LEAVING RIGHT NOW. DON'T LET THE ENEMY OUT OF YOUR SIGHT!
CHICO, YOU GUYS, DON'T FIRE UNTIL THEY FIRE FIRST.
GUARD OUR FLANKS, OK?
MEOW!
RATS, GET READY TO ROCK-AND-ROLL!
ROGER!
PONK!
PAPAPAM
PONK!
PONK!
KTOWKTOW!

S.HPOPOM
PONK!
HR
HR
DIE, G.I.!
POS.M!
NICE WORK, BOTA!
HEH HEH HEH.
PONK!
S.HPOPOM
S.HPOPOM
S.HPOPOM

WE'RE SURROUNDED!
KTOWKSOW
WHAT'S GOING ON, CAPTAIN HENRY?!
SH!
MAJOR, PLEASE DEFEND THE PERIMETER!
TAP TOTOTOM

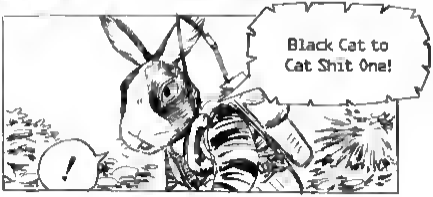
TO HELL WITH DEFENSE! WE HAVE TO ATTACK!

SH!
BAOM!

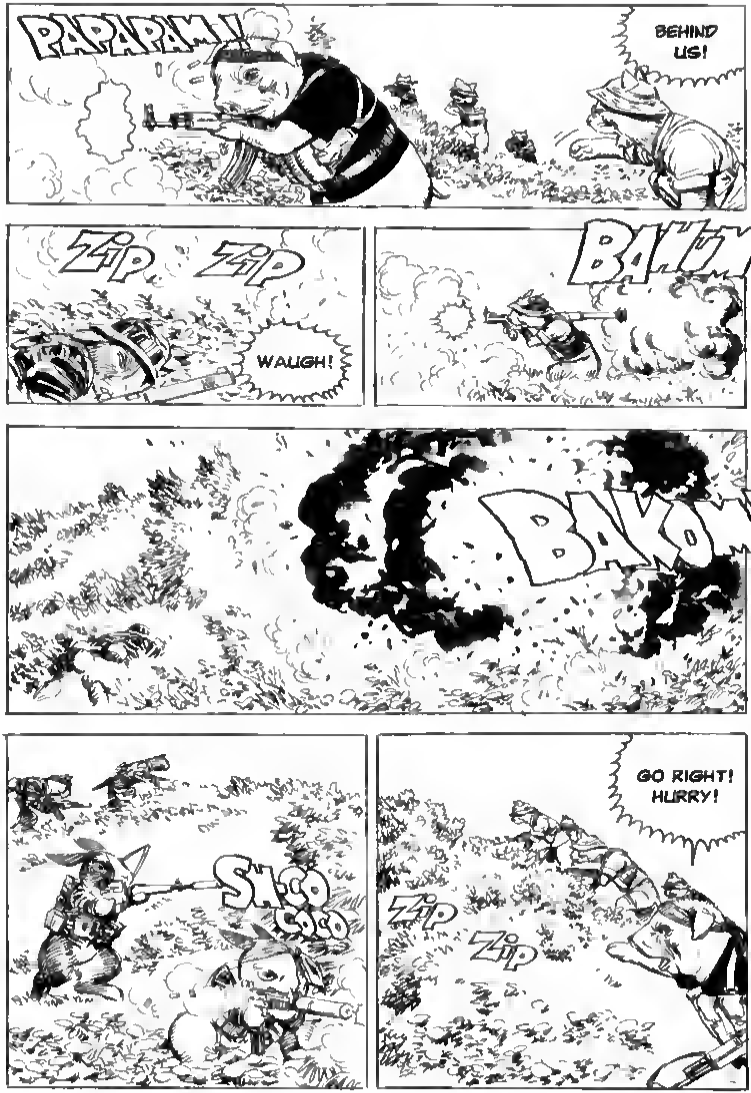
IF WE ATTACK NOW, WE'LL BE TOTALLY WIPED OUT.
DAMN!

BLACK CAT TO CAT SHIT ONE!

PAPAPAM
KTOWKSOW


Black Cat to Cat Shit One!
!

!


PA PA PAM!
BEHIND US!
ZIP ZIP
WAUGH!
BA'UM
BA'KOM!
SLSO SLSO
GO RIGHT! HURRY!
ZIP ZIP

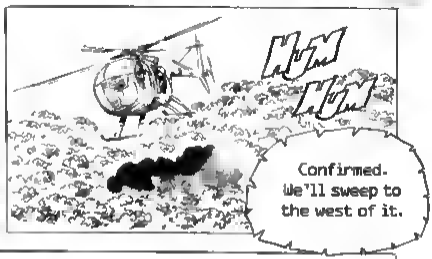
PAPAPAM
DON'T LET 'EM GET US FROM BEHIND!
ZIP
BOTA! RETURN FIRE!
SHOOO
I'M SCARED!
PAPAPAPAPAM!
PAPAM!
BAKOM!
SHIT! I CAN'T MOVE IN!
ZIP
ZIP
CHK

CHK!
BAM!!
BOTA, COVER ME!
PSH!
ZIP
ZIP
IT'S NO GOOD! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS AND GO AFTER THEM!
JULIAN, NO!
WHY? THEY KILLED OUR MEN!
WE SHOULDN'T DIVIDE UP THE SQUAD
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON HERE. HOLD YOUR FIRE!
DAMMIT!

CAPTAIN! THE VC'S ATTACK IS SLOWING DOWN.
NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO STRIKE BACK. WITH YOUR PERMISSION, SIR
GRANTED.
BLACK CAT RANGERS!
ALL FORWARD!
MEOW!
MEOW!
MEOW!
DOOK
DI DI MAU! HURRY UP!
CHARLIE'S ON THE MOVE.
BOTASKI, GET A HOLD OF THUNDERBOLT.
ROGER!
THIS IS THUNDERBOLT.
TAKE THOSE VC DOWN!

SHPOPOPOM
PSH! PSH!
ZIP
MEOWRR!
ZIP
PAPAPAM
DON'T LEAVE ANYONE BEHIND!
DI DI MAU!
KLIK!
KLIK!
KLIK!
Thunderbolt to Cat Shit One. Use smoke to mark your position!

ROGER THAT. LAUNCHING RED SMOKE.

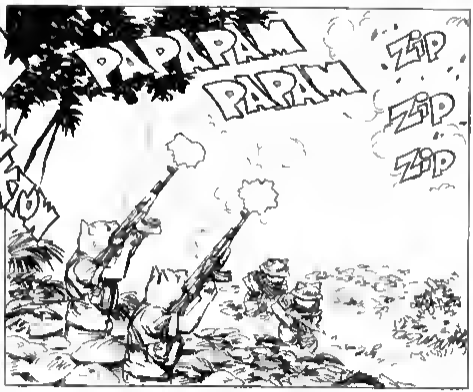

HMM HMM
Confirmed. We'll sweep to the west of it.

BAM! BAM!

DOM
DOM-DOM

Hy! Hy!
DOM

KRON KRONKRONKRON


PAPAPAM PAPAM
ZIP
ZIP
ZIP

DON'T SHOOT! YOU'LL GIVE AWAY OUR POSITION.
THUNDERBOLT! WHAT'S THE SITUATION OVER THERE?
WE'RE MOVING OUT NOW. WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY SOON.
KTOWK-TOW P-P-P-P-M
TOONK!
CONTACT. CLOSE THE TRAP!
PAM
TOONK
PAM
IT'S AN AMBUSH! WE'RE IN TROUBLE, JULIAN!
LOOK FOR A HOLE IN THEIR DEFENSES!
THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE! COME IN BLACK CAT!

PAM KTOWK TOW
TOTOTONK!
THIS IS BLACK CAT. READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR.
RANGERS ARE FANNING OUT. WE'RE TRYING TO CONTACT MIKE FORCE.
SIR!
CAPTAIN HENRY. IT'S SECOND LIEUTENANT CAO.
WE GOT A HOLD OF MIKE FORCE. THE VCS ARE CAUGHT IN OUR TRAP.
TOTOTONK!
TOTOTOTONK!
POM
CAT SHIT ONE, THIS IS BLACK CAT.
WE'VE GOT THEM.
JULIAN! WE'RE SURROUNDED.
MERDE!
DOM PAPAM
ZIP ZIP
BAOM
PAPAPAM
CHINK!
PAM
I WILL GET THROUGH THEIR PERIMETER.

THIS IS THUNDERBOLT. THE TRAP IS SPRUNG.
KTCHKSCH
Roger that, Thunderbolt. Black Cat is moving in!
TONK!
ZIP
SHIT! WE'RE SURROUNDED!
PA-PA-PA-M
ZIP
BOM
PA-PA-PA-M
ZIP
JULIAN, WE MAY BE ABLE TO GET OUT THROUGH THE SOUTH.
WE'RE GOING SOUTH, USE EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!
COMRADES OF THE LIBERATION ARMY! FOLLOW ME!
MEOW!
MEOW!
PA-PA-PA-M

BLOM!
BOM
ZIP
PAPAPAM
ZIPZIP
KTOWKTOWKTOWKTOW
POW!?
LET'S MOVE IT!
BOM
PAPAM
PAPAPAM
ZIP
KTOWKTOWKTOW
ZIP
ZIP
PAPAM

THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY.
SPREAD OUT. TEN METERS APART!
SPREAD OUT, CHICO, HIE! TEN METERS APART!
DON'T LET ANY OF 'EM GET AWAY!
MEOW!
BOTA! THEY'RE COMING!
R-ROGER!
Oh God...
Lord, this is Botaski. Please help me.
I'm so scared I just peed myself. Please, give me strength.
BAM!
AIEE!
SH-POOM!
PAM PAM ZIP
BOM! PUPUPUPUPU

BAM!
MEOW!
PAPAPAM
PAM
CHARGE!
PAPAPAM
SH-POPOPOM
PAPAPAM
SH-POPOPOM
PAPAPAM
PAPAPAM
ZIP
UGH!
ZIP!
POPOPOPOM
POPOPOPOM
ARGH!
ZIP
PAPAM
ZIP
HANG ON, HOA! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

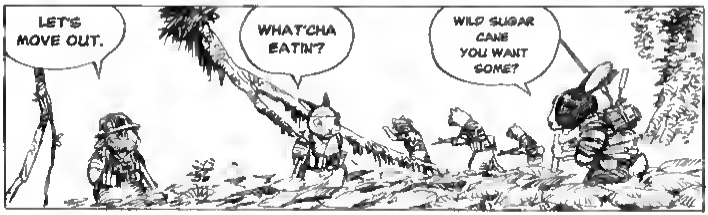
HYAAA!
PUSH!
PUSH!!
PUSH!!
PUSH!!
BAS-
TARDS!!
POPOPOPOSH!
POPOPOPOM
YEEEAAA!
POPOPOPOM

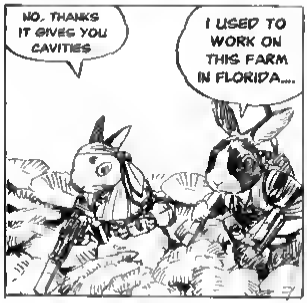
Y-YOU...

HE'S DEAD

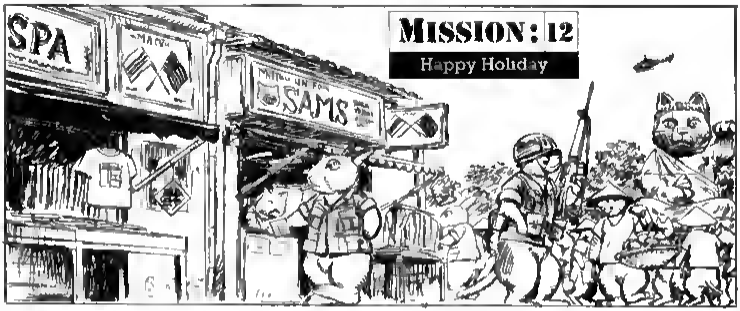
WELL, THAT'S ONE CONFIRMED KILL.
WHERE'S BOTASKI?
TINK

MEOW! BOTA HERE

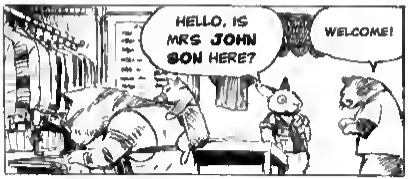

LET'S MOVE OUT.
WHAT'CHA EATIN'?
WILD SUGAR CANE YOU WANT SOME?

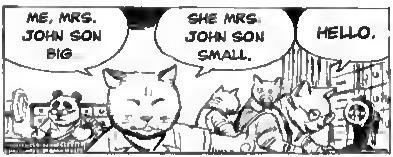

NO. THANKS IT GIVES YOU CAVITIES
I USED TO WORK ON THIS FARM IN FLORIDA....

GOOD JOB, PERKINS. NOW GO SEE A MEDIC.
LOOKS LIKE WE DID IT.

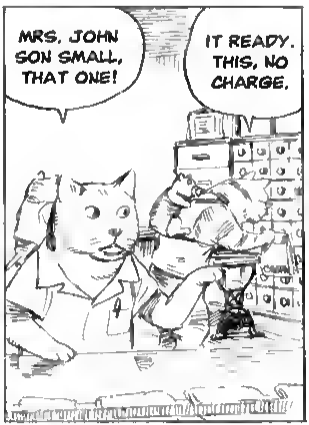

SPA
SAMS
MISSION: 12
Happy Holiday

COSTUME FETISH SHOP
SAILOR SUITS,
NURSE UNIFORMS,
STEWARDESS UNIFORMS,
ETC


HELLO, IS MRS JOHN SON HERE?
WELCOME!


ME, MRS. JOHN SON BIG
SHE MRS. JOHN SON SMALL.
HELLO.

LET'S SEE.
BOTASK! ORDER IS READY?

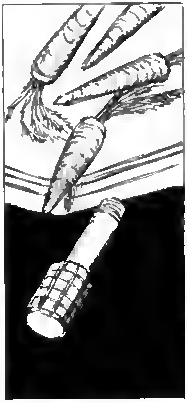

MRS. JOHN SON SMALL, THAT ONE!
IT READY. THIS, NO CHARGE.

NO!
NO FREE! VERY BAD!
OK, BOSS.

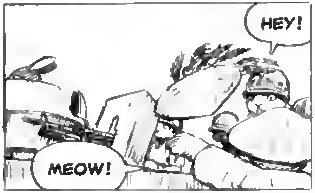
CHINESE MAN ALWAYS COMPLAIN AND CHEAP.
YOU WANT T-SHIRT?
NO, THANKS.

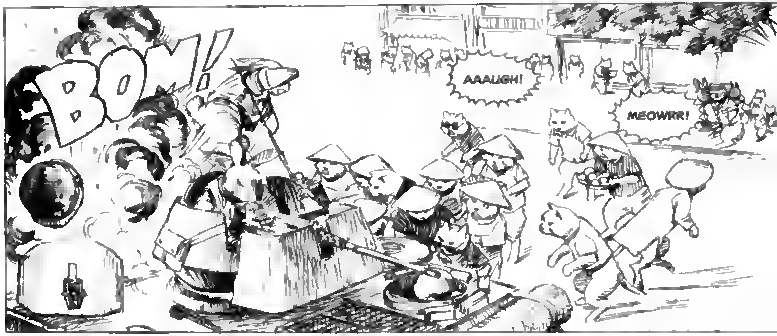
THIS IS THE ORIGINAL.
AIRBORNE
THIS WAS MADE IN COUNTRY.
CatShit One
THIS WAS FREE WHAT'S THIS?
CatShit One
LOOK! IT'S A CARROT.
WHAT'S THIS TAG?
snap
Cooperation/ Daisuke Satoh
MADE IN JAPAN...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, BOTASKI?
DOM DOM DOM DOM
I HATE "MADE IN JAPAN" STUFF
YOUR TRANSISTOR RADIO IS MADE IN JAPAN, RIGHT?
NOPE! SONYS ARE MADE IN THE USA!
HONDA BIKES ARE MADE IN JAPAN.
HUNDA BIKES ARE MADE IN THE USA, RIGHT, RATS?
?
YEP THAT'S RIGHT
LET'S GO OUT TO EAT.

G.I.! YOU WANT FRESH CARROTS?
COLD COKE, JOE?
THAT'S THE 1ST CAVALRY, RABBIT DIVISION.
MAN, THEY'RE SO COOL!
THAT BADGE WAS A CARROT, WASN'T IT?
WHY'D IT HAVE TO BE A CARROT? I HATE THEM!
JOE!
MONEY?
STAY THE HELL BACK, CHARLIE!
JOE! FLOWERS!
FRESH CARROTS, JOE!
IT'S A CONSPIRACY. THE CIA AND DISNEY ARE IN CAHOOTS.
HM. THIS KID STINKS.



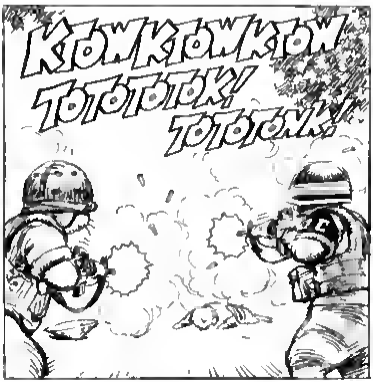
STOP!

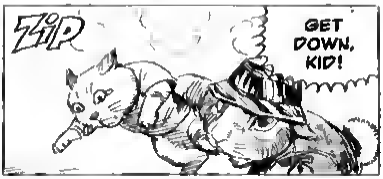

HEY!
MEOW!

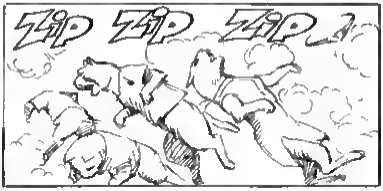

BOM!
AAAUGH!
MEOWRR!

GET DOWN!
WAAA!

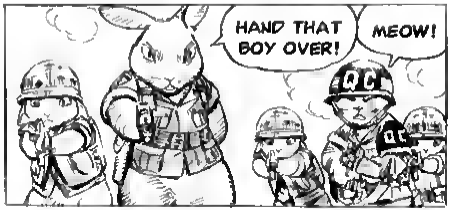
KTOW.KTOW
KTOW.KTOW

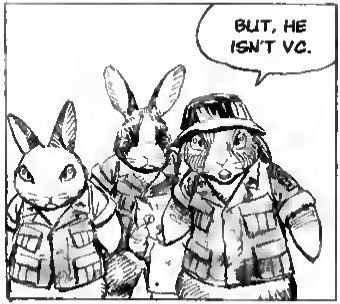

KOW KOW KOW KOW
TOTOTOK! TOTOTOK!

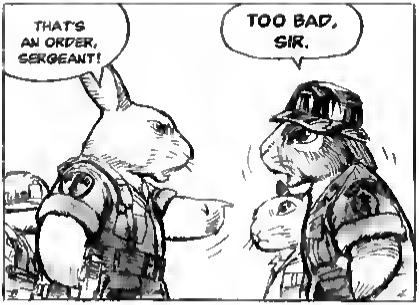

ZIP
GET DOWN, KID!


ZIP ZIP ZIP

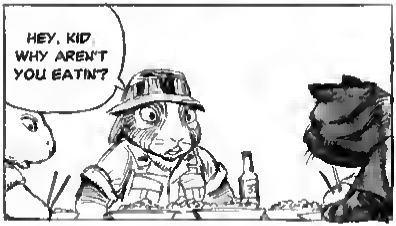
DON'T SHOOT!
I'M SCARED.
MOTHER THUMPER!
ZIP


HAND THAT BOY OVER!
MEOW!


BUT, HE ISN'T VC.


THAT'S AN ORDER, SERGEANT!
TOO BAD, SIR.

SOME OF MY MEN JUST DIED!
PEOPLE DIE HERE EVERY DAY. US AND THEM.
YOU'RE OUT OF LINE! STATE YOUR NAME AND UNIT.
SERGEANT PERKINS. FOB I, DANANG.
YOU'RE GONNA REGRET THIS, PERKINS.
JUST HAND THE STINKING KID OVER, MAN
THIS IS MAJOR ELMORE OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION. I'M CALLING ABOUT ONE OF YOUR MEN, SERGEANT PERKINS
PERKINS IS EFFECTIVELY A CAPTAIN. FOR YOUR SAKE,
I HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU BACK OFF.
IS THAT A THREAT?
JUST SOME ADVICE FROM A FELLOW OFFICER
HE'S HERE UNDER ORDERS THAT COME FROM A LOT HIGHER THAN OURS.
HMPH. WELL WHO SENT HIM? GOD?
TRY NATIONAL SECURITY.
SO UNLESS YOU WANT TO BE PLANTING TREES IN ALASKA, YOU SHOULD JUST DROP IT. TOODLES.
DAMMIT!

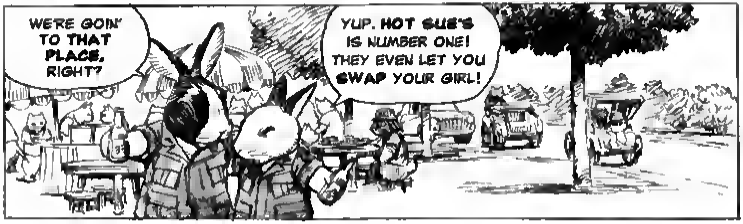

HEY, KID WHY AREN'T YOU EATIN'?

I WANNA SHARE WITH MY FRIENDS.

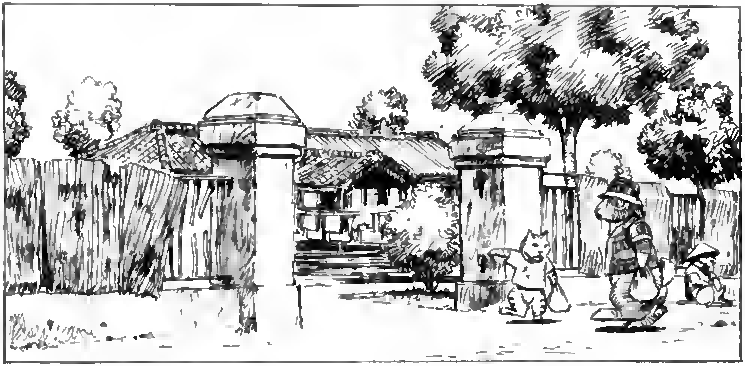
FINE, WE'LL ASK FOR TAKE-OUT.

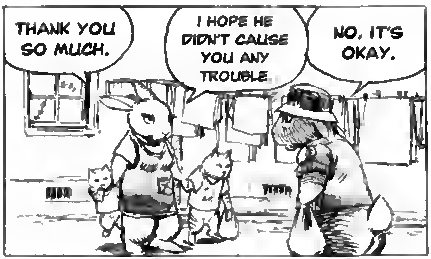
HEY, PERKY. WE'RE TAKIN' OFF FOR A BIT.
BWEHEHEH!

YEAH, GO AHEAD. I'LL MEET YOU BACK AT THE HOTEL.

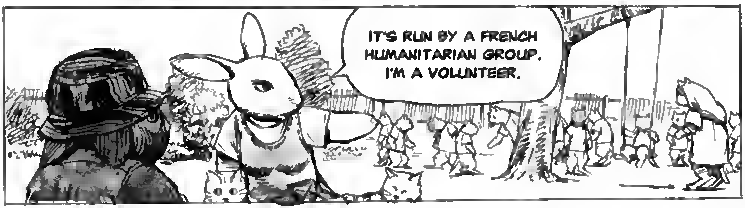

WE'RE GOIN' TO THAT PLACE, RIGHT?
YUP. HOT SUE'S IS NUMBER ONE! THEY EVEN LET YOU SWAP YOUR GIRL!

DO YOU LIVE NEAR HERE?
YEP. IT'S CLOSE.
YOU GOT PARENTS?
NO. IT'S JUST ME.
MAMA-SAN! HOW'S IT GOIN'?
GOT ANY CUTE GIRLS?
LONG TIME, NO SEE! YOU WANT SUCK? BOOM BOOM? ALL NUMBER ONE!
HELLO, JOE!
WE SO MUCH BOOM BOOM! AND FREE SUCK!
TEN DOLLAR EACH.
NO, NO. TOO HIGH! FIVE DOLLARS EACH.
UPSTAIRS, JOE. WE HAVE FUN!
YOU GIRLS EVER SEEN A GEORGIA WHITESNAKE? EWEHEHEH!



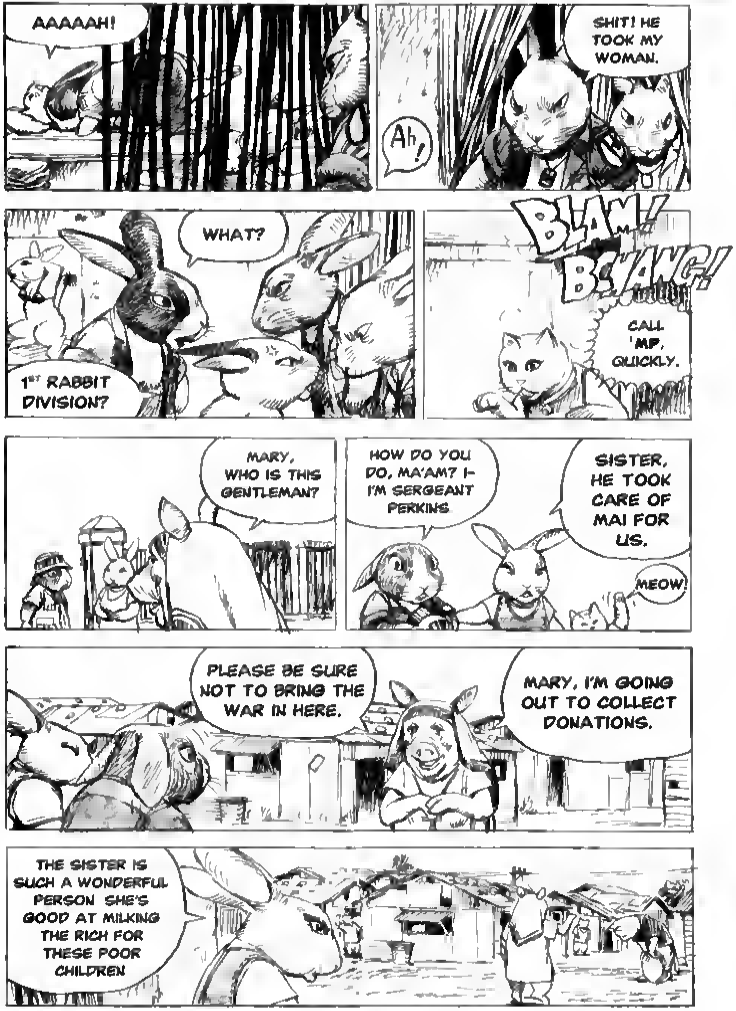

THANK YOU SO MUCH.
I HOPE HE DIDN'T CAUSE YOU ANY TROUBLE.
NO, IT'S OKAY.

WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS?

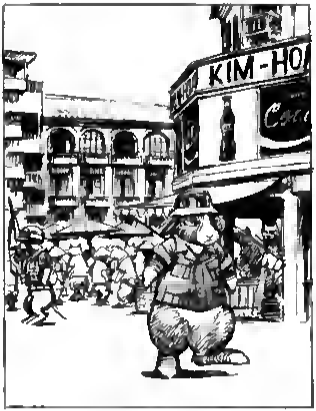

IT'S RUN BY A FRENCH HUMANITARIAN GROUP. I'M A VOLUNTEER.

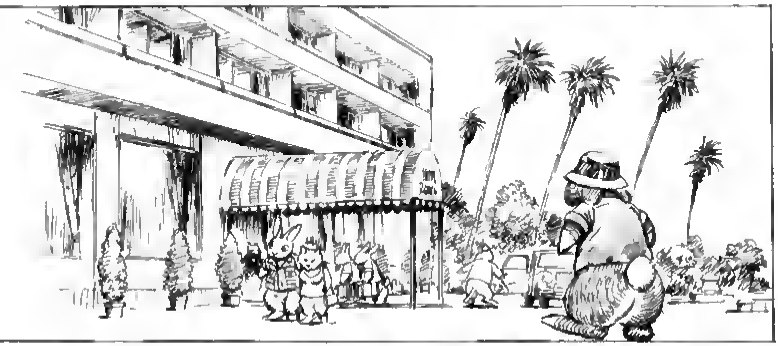
WE HAVE SEVENTY WAR ORPHANS HERE.
THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THEM IN THE CITY, BUT WE HAVE OUR HANDS FULL AS IT IS.

THERE'VE JUST BEEN SO MANY REFUGEES COMING IN RECENTLY...
OH.

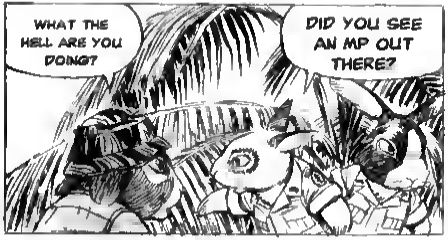

AAAAAH!
SHIT! HE TOOK MY WOMAN.
Ah!
WHAT?
1ST RABBIT DIVISION?
BLAM!
BG'AWG!
CALL MP, QUICKLY.
MARY, WHO IS THIS GENTLEMAN?
HOW DO YOU DO, MA'AM? I-I'M SERGEANT PERKINS.
SISTER, HE TOOK CARE OF MAI FOR US.
MEOW
PLEASE BE SURE NOT TO BRING THE WAR IN HERE.
MARY, I'M GOING OUT TO COLLECT DONATIONS.
THE SISTER IS SUCH A WONDERFUL PERSON SHE'S GOOD AT MILKING THE RICH FOR THESE POOR CHILDREN

[1] *MP* = Military Police

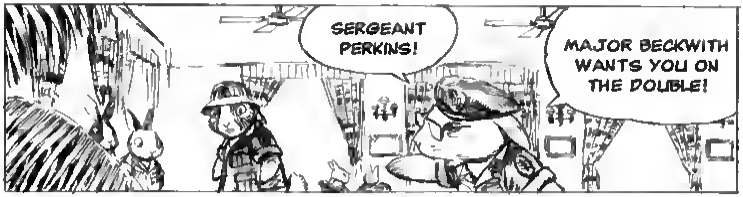




[1] *MPC* = Military Payment Certificates. They were issued by the military in place of currency, in order to keep American dollars off the black market


WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
DID YOU SEE AN MP OUT THERE?

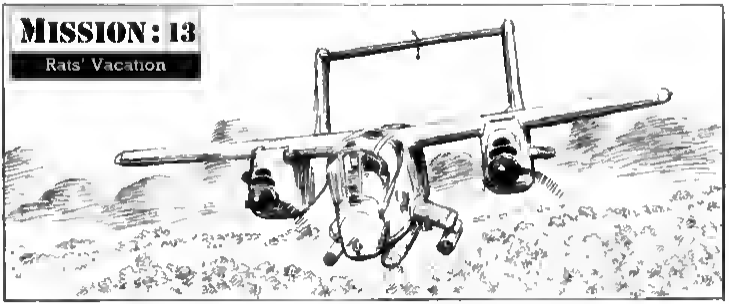
I, UH, GOT INTO A BIT OF TROUBLE...
I'LL BET.

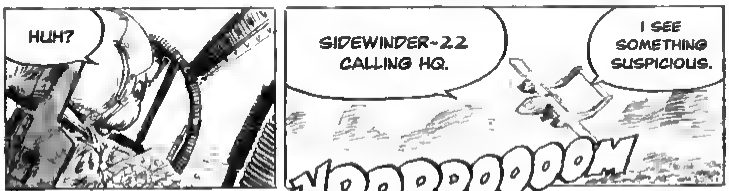

SERGEANT PERKINS!
MAJOR BECKWITH WANTS YOU ON THE DOUBLE!

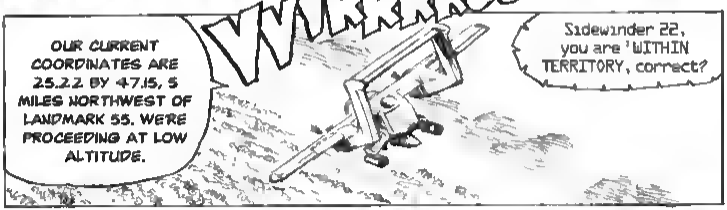
BRRRROM

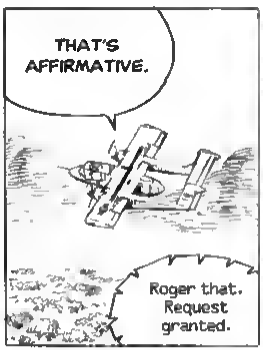
MISSION: 13

Rats' Vacation

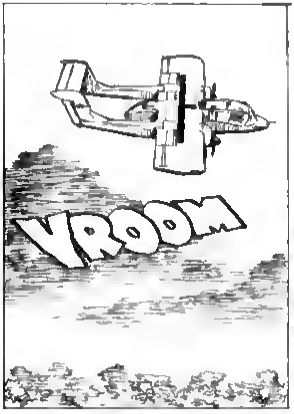


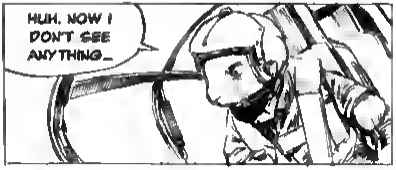


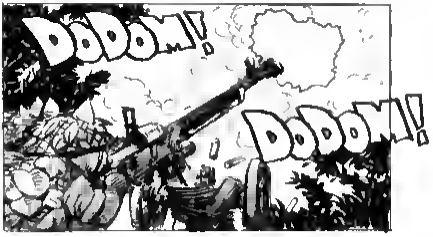

OUR CURRENT COORDINATES ARE 25.22 BY 47.15, 5 MILES NORTHWEST OF LANDMARK 55. WE'RE PROCEEDING AT LOW ALTITUDE.
Sidewinder 22, you are *WITHIN TERRITORY, correct?

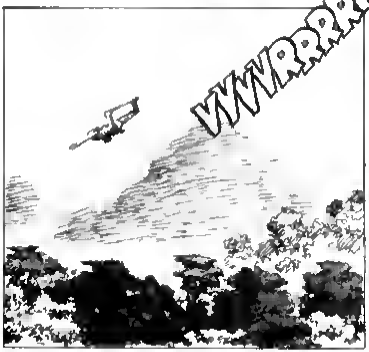


*Within territory = Term used by pilots during the Vietnam War era. It actually meant "the other side of the border." International treaty forbade engaging in war activities in areas outside of South Vietnam, such as Laos or Cambodia.









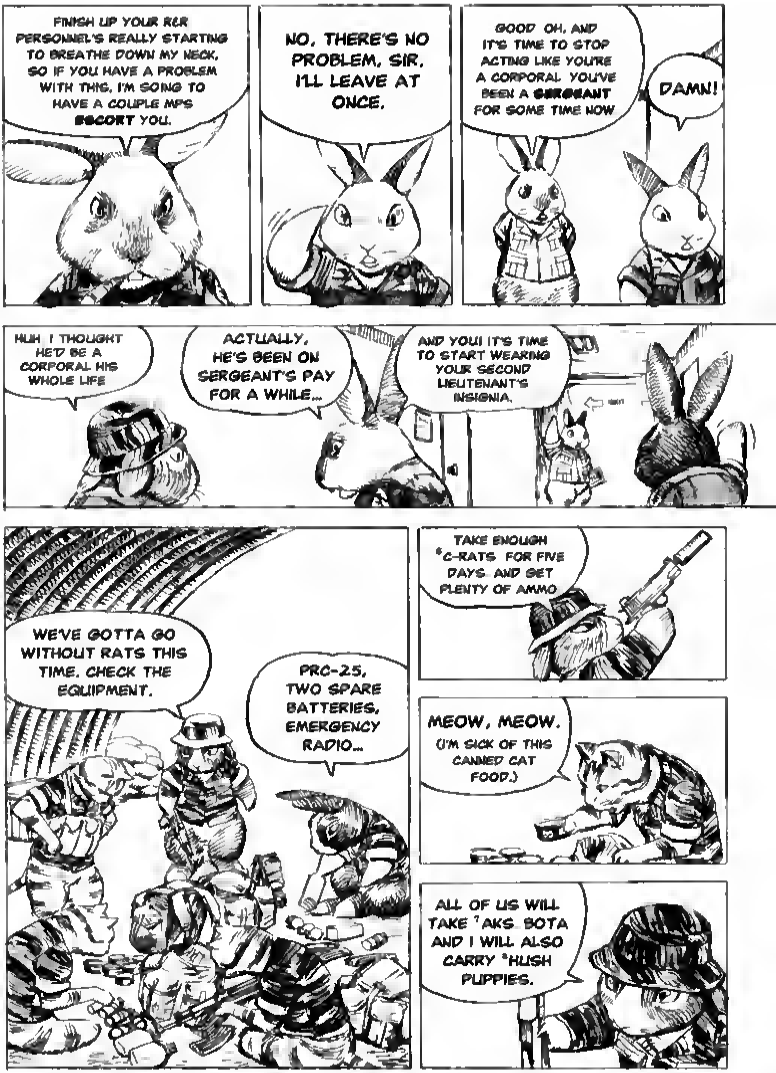
[8] *Dash K* = Dshk-38, a Soviet-made heavy caliber machine gun

SO THAT'S THE STORY BUT NO ONE AT AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE WOULD LISTEN.
EVEN THOUGH THE DASH K LEFT SOME 12.7 MM BULLET HOLES
ACCORDING TO MACV-[3]SOG HEADQUARTERS IN SAIGON...
ONLY UNITS LARGER THAN AN [4]NVA BATTALION WOULD HAVE DASH KS THERE MIGHT EVEN BE A FULL REGIMENT
YOU ALL ARE THE BEST RTS WE'VE GOT RIGHT NOW IN THE 'NAM
NO ONE HAS BEEN THAT DEEP INTO THE [5]TRI-BORDER THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU BOYS TO GO IN
WILL YOU DO IT?
YES, SIR. I'VE ALREADY VOLUNTEERED FOR SOG.
ARE WE GOING WITHOUT RATS THIS TIME, SIR?
YEAH, HE'S OUTSIDE POUTING...
HE'S GETTING SHIPPED BACK.
HEY, WHITE!
GO TO TAN SON NHUT AFB RIGHT AWAY. YOU'RE GOING HOME— THAT'S AN ORDER.
MAJOR? BUT, WHY?

[3] SOG = Special Operation Group. In November 1967 MACV-SOG Headquarters was moved to Tan Son Nhut AFB on the outskirts of Saigon in order to command all of the special mission units

[4] *NVA* = North Vietnamese Army

[5] *Tri-Border* = The region where the borders of Vietnam Cambodia and Laos meet


FINISH UP YOUR R&R PERSONNEL'S REALLY STARTING TO BREATHE DOWN MY NECK. SO IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THIS, I'M GOING TO HAVE A COUPLE MPS ESCORT YOU.
NO, THERE'S NO PROBLEM, SIR. I'LL LEAVE AT ONCE.
GOOD. OH, AND IT'S TIME TO STOP ACTING LIKE YOU'RE A CORPORAL. YOU'VE BEEN A SERGEANT FOR SOME TIME NOW.
DAMN!
HUH. I THOUGHT HE'D BE A CORPORAL HIS WHOLE LIFE.
ACTUALLY, HE'S BEEN ON SERGEANT'S PAY FOR A WHILE...
AND YOU! IT'S TIME TO START WEARING YOUR SECOND LIEUTENANT'S INSIGNIA.
WE'VE GOTTA GO WITHOUT RATS THIS TIME. CHECK THE EQUIPMENT.
PRC-25, TWO SPARE BATTERIES, EMERGENCY RADIO...
TAKE ENOUGH [6]C-RATS FOR FIVE DAYS AND GET PLENTY OF AMMO.
MEOW, MEOW. (I'M SICK OF THIS CANNED CAT FOOD.)
ALL OF US WILL TAKE [7]AKS 90TA AND I WILL ALSO CARRY [8]HUSH PUPPIES.

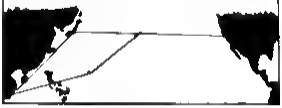
[6] *C Rat* = Short for C-Ration, portable "field food" carried on a soldier's person. By the time of the Vietnam War C Rations were being phased out in favor of MCIs (Meal Combat Individual)

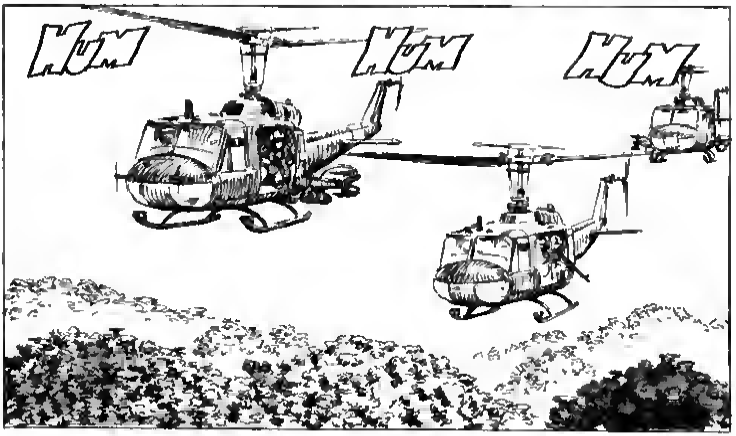
[7] AK = Soviet manufactured combat assault rifle and the basic weapon of the Communist forces. The US Forces used them only during special missions

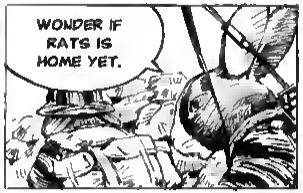
[8] *Hush Puppies* = Pistols fitted with a silencer. The standard weapon of close combat for the US Navy SEALs

During the Vietnam War, civilian airlines contributed by performing troop rotations

The route was either from Vietnam to Yokota, Japan, to Hawaii to the US mainland, or Vietnam to Guam, and THEN Hawaii to the mainland





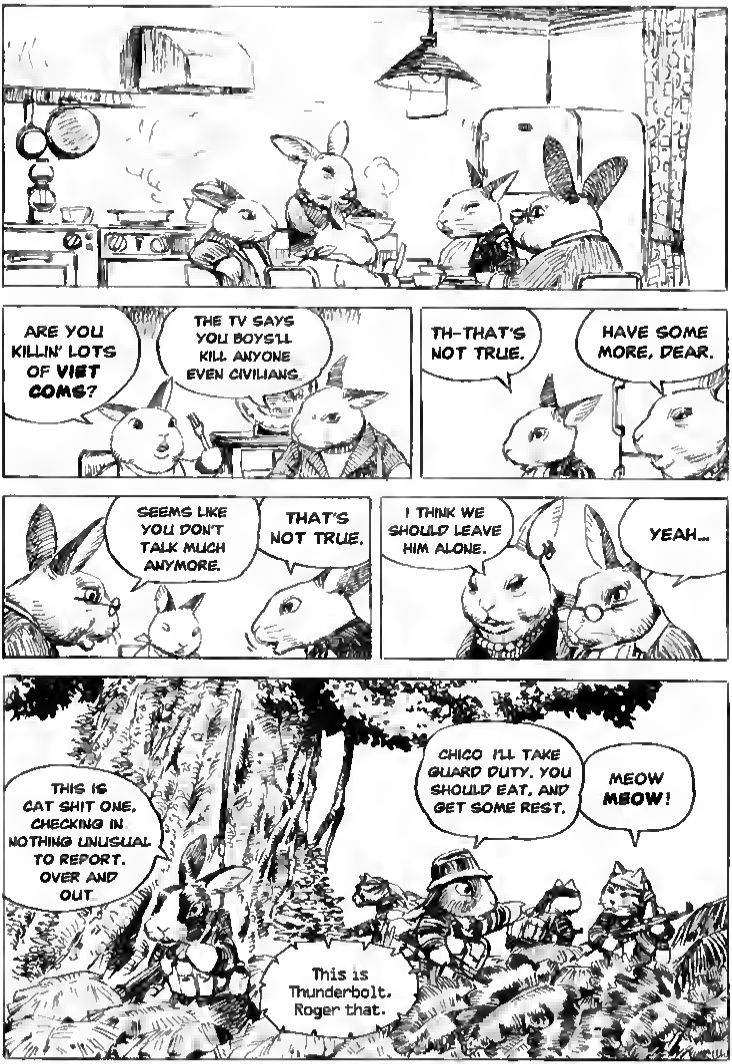

WONDER IF RATS IS HOME YET.

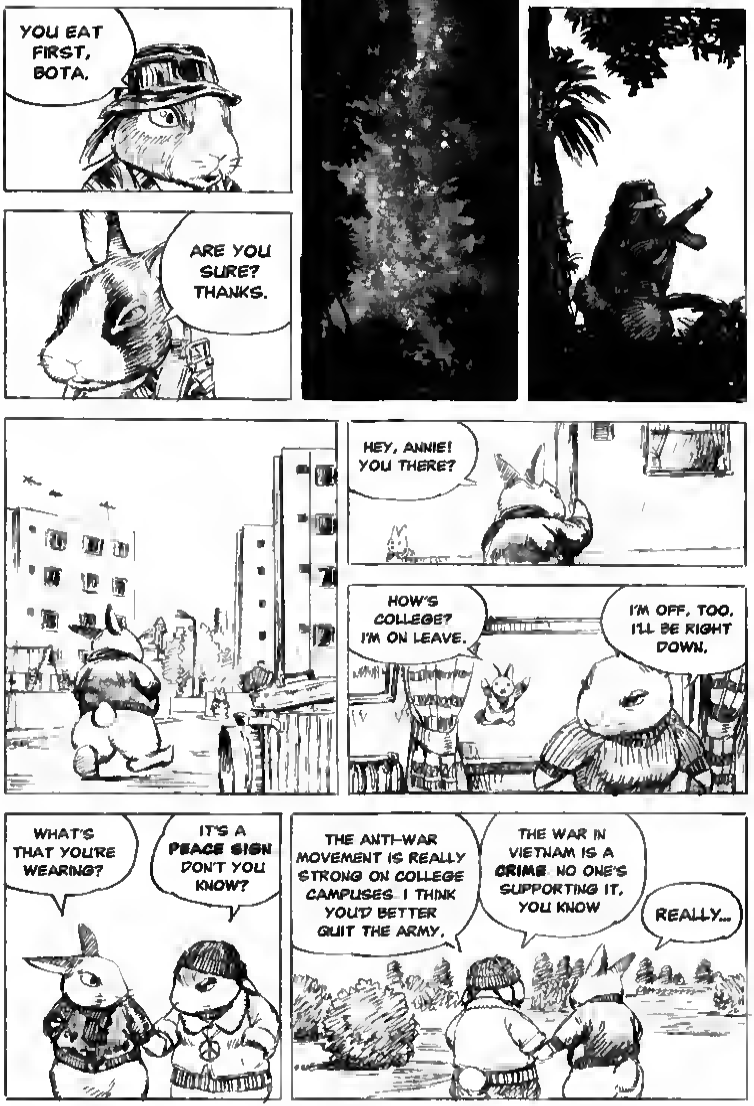
HE'S PROBABLY AT LA GUARDIA BY NOW.

DIDN'T HE SAY HE'S FROM THE BRONX?

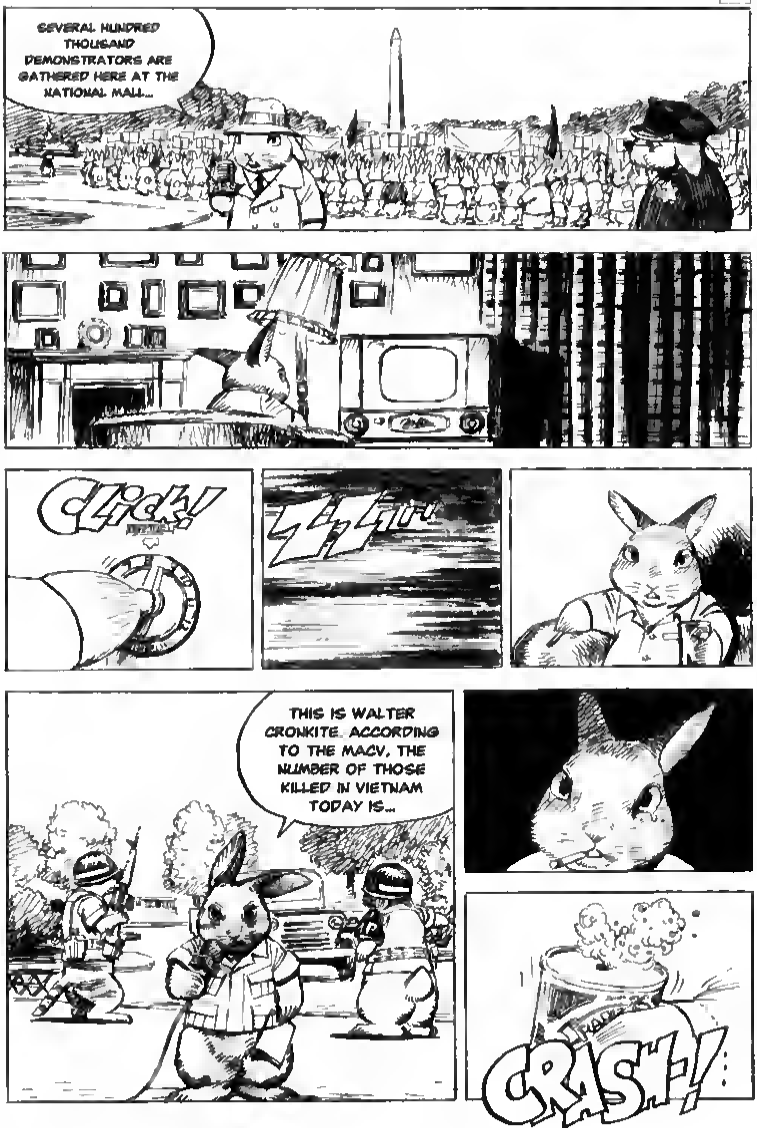
BABY KILLER! STOP THE WAR!

MY BABY! WELCOME HOME!


ARE YOU KILLIN' LOTS OF VIET COMS?
THE TV SAYS YOU BOYS'LL KILL ANYONE EVEN CIVILIANS.
TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE.
HAVE SOME MORE, DEAR.
SEEMS LIKE YOU DON'T TALK MUCH ANYMORE.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
I THINK WE SHOULD LEAVE HIM ALONE.
YEAH...
THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE, CHECKING IN NOTHING UNUSUAL TO REPORT. OVER AND OUT
CHICO I'LL TAKE GUARD DUTY. YOU SHOULD EAT, AND GET SOME REST.
MEOW MEOW!
This is Thunderbolt. Roger that.


YOU EAT FIRST, BOTA.
ARE YOU SURE? THANKS.
HEY, ANNIE! YOU THERE?
HOW'S COLLEGE? I'M ON LEAVE.
I'M OFF, TOO. I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN.
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE WEARING?
IT'S A PEACE SIGN DON'T YOU KNOW?
THE ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT IS REALLY STRONG ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES. I THINK YOU'D BETTER QUIT THE ARMY.
THE WAR IN VIETNAM IS A CRIME. NO ONE'S SUPPORTING IT, YOU KNOW
REALLY...

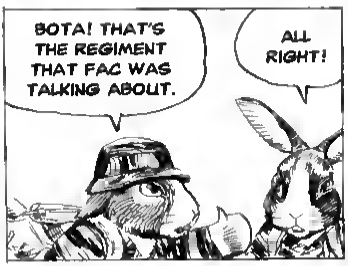
SSH!
IT'S OK.
ENEMY PATROL. WE'LL GO A DIFFERENT ROUTE.


SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND DEMONSTRATORS ARE GATHERED HERE AT THE NATIONAL MALL...
CLICK!
ZZZZZ...
THIS IS WALTER CRONKITE. ACCORDING TO THE MACV, THE NUMBER OF THOSE KILLED IN VIETNAM TODAY IS...
CRASH!

MAN, I'M BEAT!

LET'S JUST GO BACK
YEAH, I COULD USE A COLD ONE...

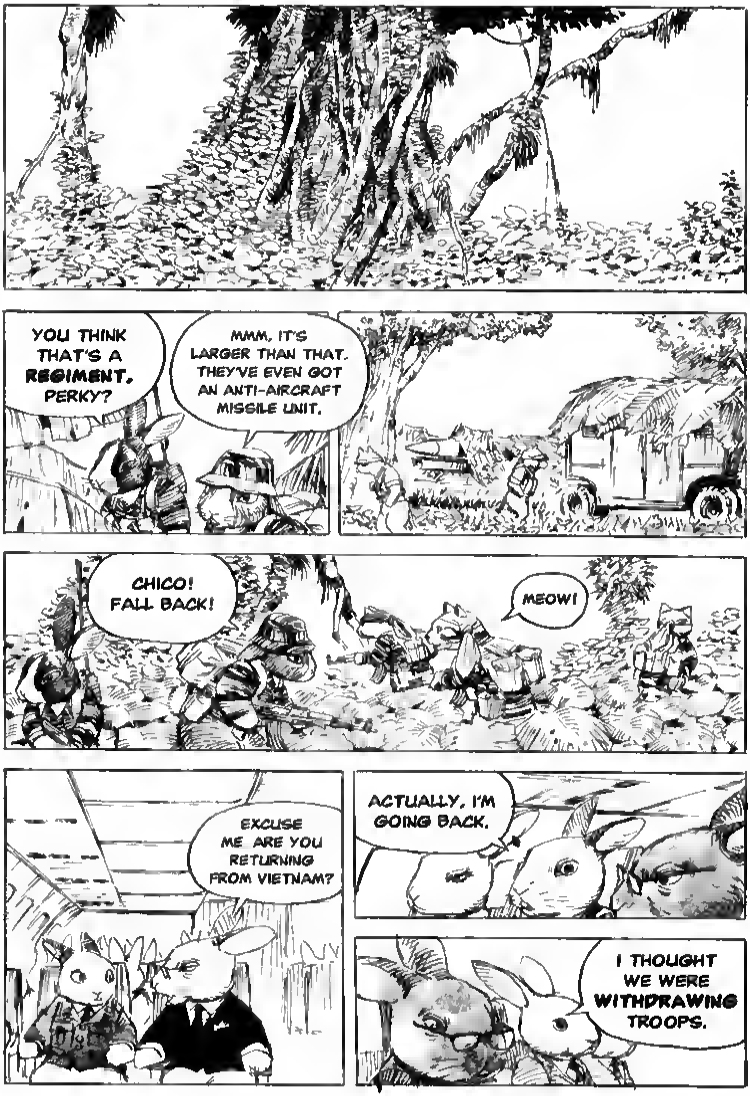
MEOW!


BOTA! THAT'S THE REGIMENT THAT FAC WAS TALKING ABOUT.
ALL RIGHT!

THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE! BINGO!
I REPEAT, BINGO! COORDINATES ARE...

WHAT! YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?!
YOU HAVE THREE MORE DAYS OF LEAVE, DEAR.
I'M SORRY. I'VE GOTTA GET BACK TO MY BUDDIES.
THEY'RE MY TRUE FRIENDS. I'LL BE BACK SOON.
NO GOOD. YOU MUST READ MAO TSE TUNG MORE!
THERE ARE THE CHINESE MILITARY ADVISERS.
LOOK! THERE'S THE *GUIDELINE!

*Guideline = Soviet-made SA-2 surface-to-air missile system used by the NVA. Supposedly the hit rate on US aircraft was one out of sixty six shots


YOU THINK THAT'S A REGIMENT, PERKY?
MMM, IT'S LARGER THAN THAT. THEY'VE EVEN GOT AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE UNIT.
CHICO! FALL BACK!
MEOW!
EXCUSE ME ARE YOU RETURNING FROM VIETNAM?
ACTUALLY, I'M GOING BACK.
I THOUGHT WE WERE WITHDRAWING TROOPS.

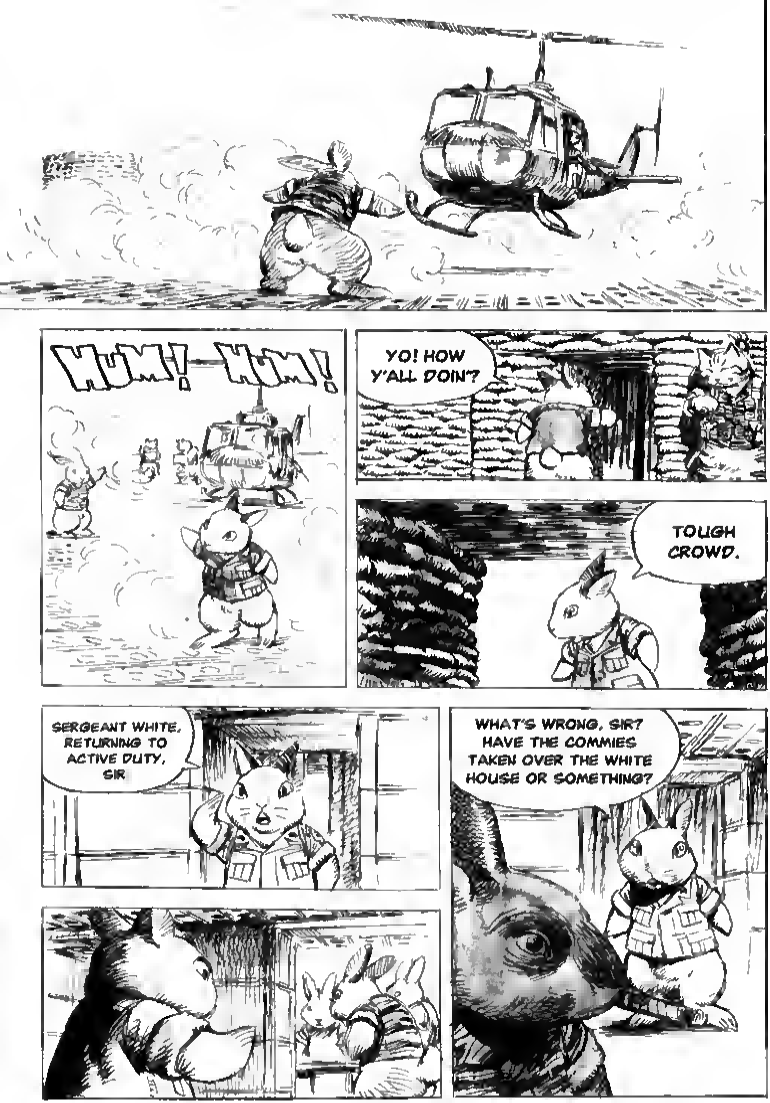
IS IT TRUE THAT WE'RE KILLING BABIES IN VIETNAM?
OF COURSE NOT. IT'S THE VIET CONG'S...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PERKY?
SSH!
I CAN SMELL 'EM.
PAPAPAM!

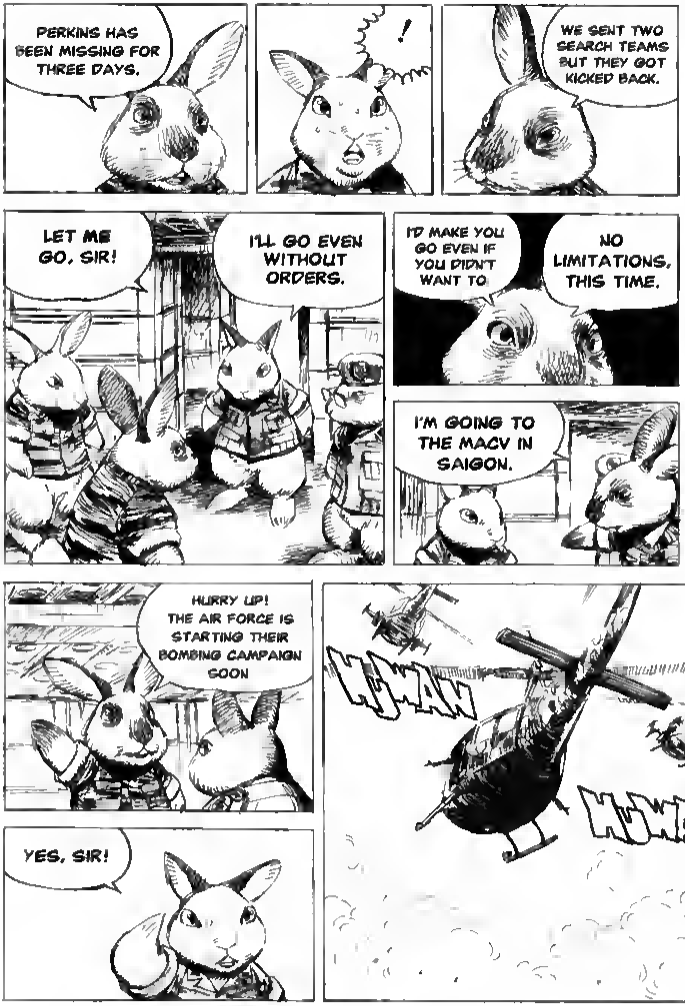
BAOM!
PAPAM!
PAPAM!
PAPAM!
DROP THE BAG!
PAPAM
PAPAPAM!
ZIP!
BAM!
RUN!
ZIP!
AIEEE!
ZIP

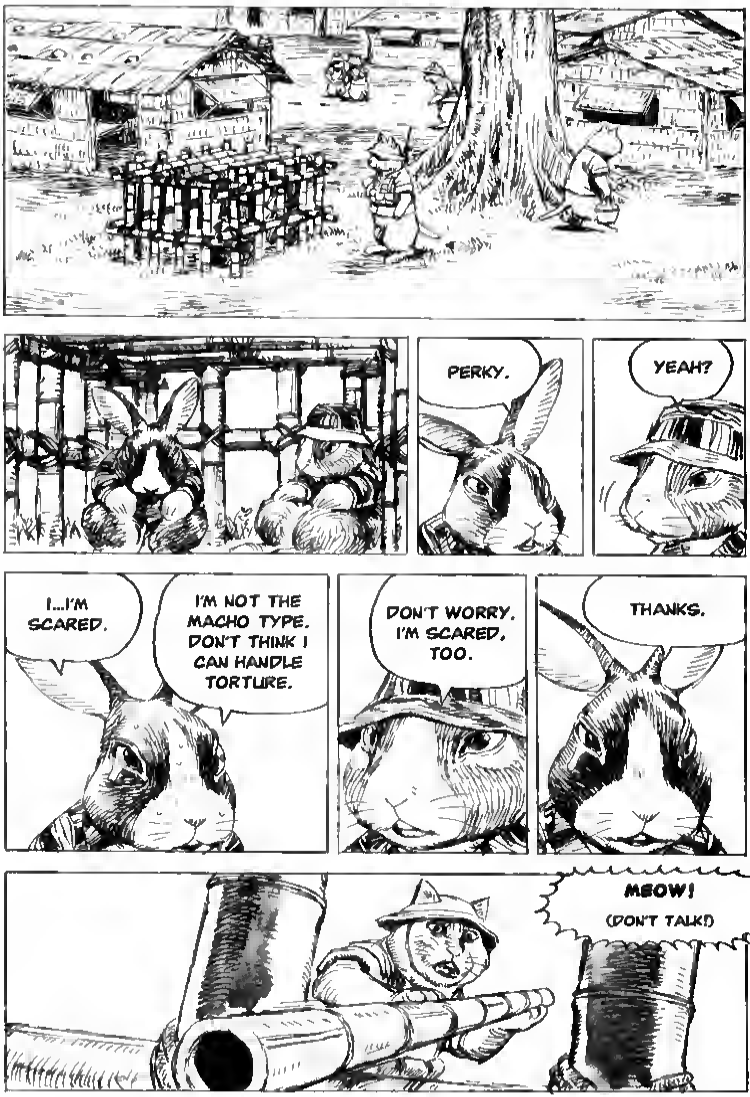
NEXT!
GOING BACK TO THE 'NAM, SERGEANT?
YES, SIR.
WHY DIDN'T YOU REQUEST A TRANSFER? THEN YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO GO BACK.
I CAN'T LEAVE MY BUDDIES BEHIND, SIR.
HMM...
PAPAPAPAM!
BAOM!
PAPAM!
CHICO! YOU ALL RIGHT?
HER
HER
BAM!
THEN TAKE YOUR BUDDIES AND GO! WE'LL COVER YOU.
HER
HER
MEOW MEOWRR.
(I CAN RUN.)

MEOW MEOW, PAK!!
(I CAN'T DO THAT, PERKY)
HER
HER
THEY'D TAKE US PRISONER, BUT IF YOU'RE CAUGHT, THEY'LL KILL YOU.
NOW DROP YOUR WEAPONS AND GO! THAT'S AN ORDER!
PAP'M
MEOW. (ROGER)
PAP'M
ZIP!
ROCK-AND-ROLL, BOTASKI! WE'VE GOTTA BUY SOME TIME!
HER
GOTCHA!
HER
PAP'M
ZIP! ZIP! ZIP!
EEK!
SH...
ZIP
BAKOW!
CHUENK!

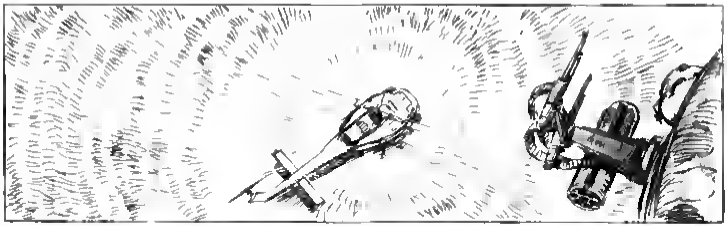
PAPAPAM!!
MEOW!
ZIP! ZIP
BOTASKI! DESTROY THE PRC AND THE CODE BOOK!
BAOM!
PERKY!
PAPAPAM!
KRAM!
MEOW!

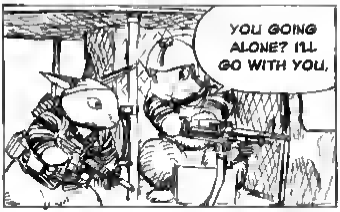

HUM!—HUM!
YO! HOW Y'ALL DOIN'?
TOUGH CROWD.
SERGEANT WHITE, RETURNING TO ACTIVE DUTY, SIR
WHAT'S WRONG, SIR? HAVE THE COMMIES TAKEN OVER THE WHITE HOUSE OR SOMETHING?

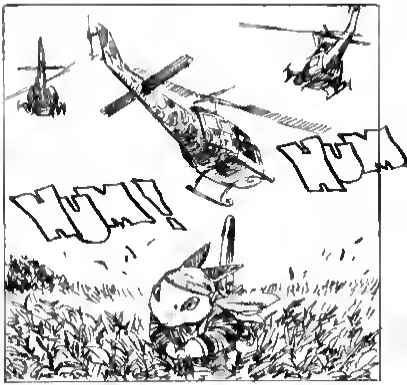

PERKINS HAS BEEN MISSING FOR THREE DAYS.
!
WE SENT TWO SEARCH TEAMS BUT THEY GOT KICKED BACK.
LET ME GO, SIR!
I'LL GO EVEN WITHOUT ORDERS.
I'D MAKE YOU GO EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO.
NO LIMITATIONS, THIS TIME.
I'M GOING TO THE MACV IN SAIGON.
HURRY UP! THE AIR FORCE IS STARTING THEIR BOMBING CAMPAIGN SOON
WHAN
WHAN
YES, SIR!


PERKY.
YEAH?
I...I'M SCARED.
I'M NOT THE MACHO TYPE. DON'T THINK I CAN HANDLE TORTURE.
DON'T WORRY. I'M SCARED, TOO.
THANKS.
MEOW!
(DON'T TALK!)

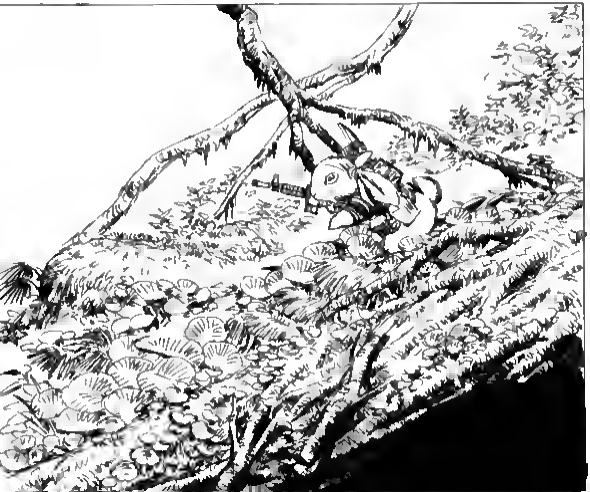
SHIT!
DAMN VIETNAMESE!
THAT BLACK ONE...
TORTURE IS AGAINST THE TREATY!
DON'T DO IT!
YOU THINK YOU'RE PRISONERS?
BWA HA HA!
STOP LAUGHING!
YOU AMERICANS HAVEN'T DECLARED WAR.
THEREFORE, YOU'RE NOT POWS.
DAMN BASTARD!
HA HA HA!
NYAHAHA!
HA HA HA!




YOU GOING ALONE? I'LL GO WITH YOU.


HUM!!
HUM

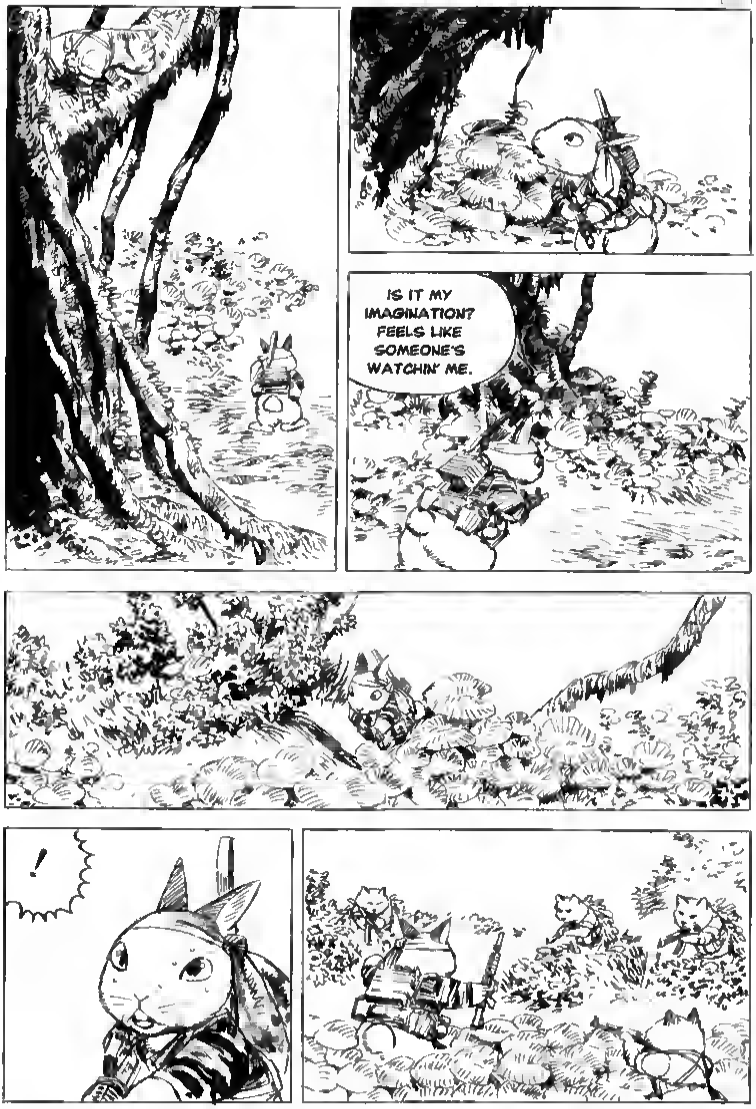
THANKS, BUT I'LL BE FINE.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, COME AND GET ME QUICKLY.



HER
HER

This is Sidewinder 22. Read you loud and clear.
VVRROOOM
THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE. COME IN, SIDEWINDER.
WE ARE MONITORING YOU 24 HOURS. YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
BE CAREFUL. OVER.
ROGER!

MUST'VE BEEN A FIGHT HERE.
FOOTPRINTS

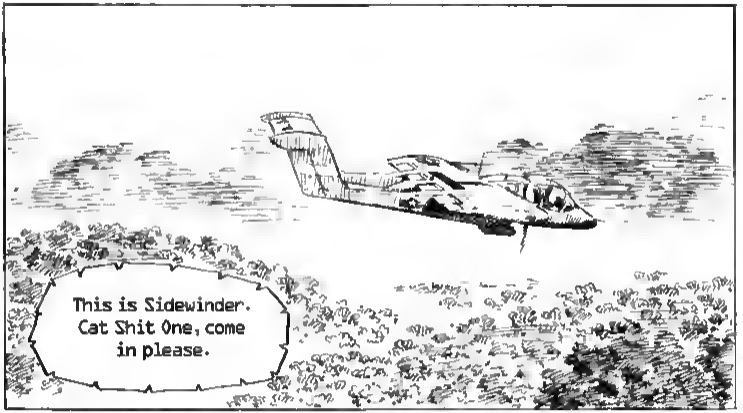

IS IT MY IMAGINATION? FEELS LIKE SOMEONE'S WATCHIN' ME.
!

BRING THE OTHER ONE.
MEOW!
YOU ALL RIGHT, BOTASKI?
BLAM!
UGH!
STOP THAT, COMRADE! THEY ARE IMPORTANT GUESTS.
WE ARE HONORED TO MEET SERGEANT PERKINS, FROM THE BEST OF THE BEST SOG TEAM, CAT SHIT ONE.

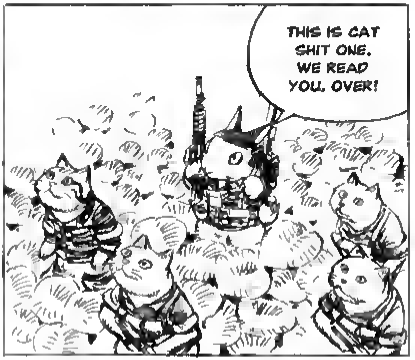
BOTASKI, DON'T BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF.
SORRY, PERKY.
WE'VE KNOWN YOUR CODE NAME, CAT SHIT ONE, FOR SOME TIME NOW.
WE'VE HEARD IT MANY TIMES...
IN LAOS, CAMBODIA AND NORTH VIETNAM.
IT'S AGAINST THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY TO ENGAGE IN MISSIONS BEYOND THE BORDER.
YOUR MILITARY STRATEGY IS A WAR CRIME.
HERE'S THE EVIDENCE THE MOUNTAIN TRIBES OF CENTRAL VIETNAM...
WERE THE VICTIMS OF YOUR CRIMES LAST JUNE.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
BLAM!!

STOP!
YOU MURDERED 38 VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN HAI HO VILLAGE WITH A FLAME THROWER.
SERGEANT PERKINS, SIGN THIS CONFESSION.
NO WAY IN HELL!
UGH!
STOP!
BLAM!
GIVE ME A PEN. I'LL SIGN IT.
MEOW!
MEOW! MEOW MEOW.
SERGEANT PERKINS, HANOI IS WAITING FOR YOU.

MEOW!
CHICO!
MEOW!
RATS, LOWER YOUR ARMS!
WE MEMBERS OF SAME TRIBE.
THEY ARE MY FAMILY. MY PAPA CHIEF OF THIS TRIBE.
WE HELP PAKI, BOTA.

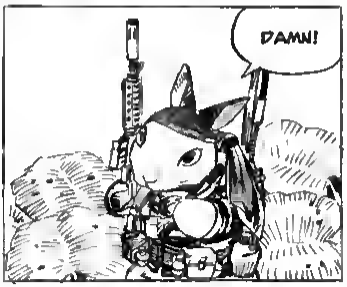

This is Sidewinder. Cat Shit One, come in please.

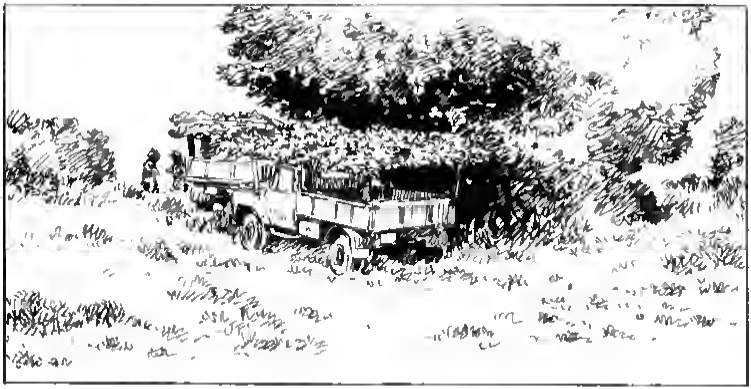
THIS IS SIDEWINDER. CAT SHIT ONE, COME IN.


THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE. WE READ YOU. OVER!

VVRROOOM

THIS AREA WILL BE A NO-FLY ZONE SOON.
BOMBING'S BEEN CONFIRMED. EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY.

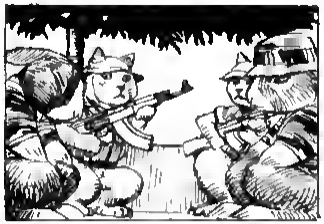

DAMN!



WE'RE READY, SIR.
GOOD. THANK YOU.

WE'RE LEAVING.
BE CAREFUL. DON'T LET THE RUSSIANS GET THEM.

DON'T WORRY, COMRADE.
HAVE A SAFE TRIP.



BROOOM!

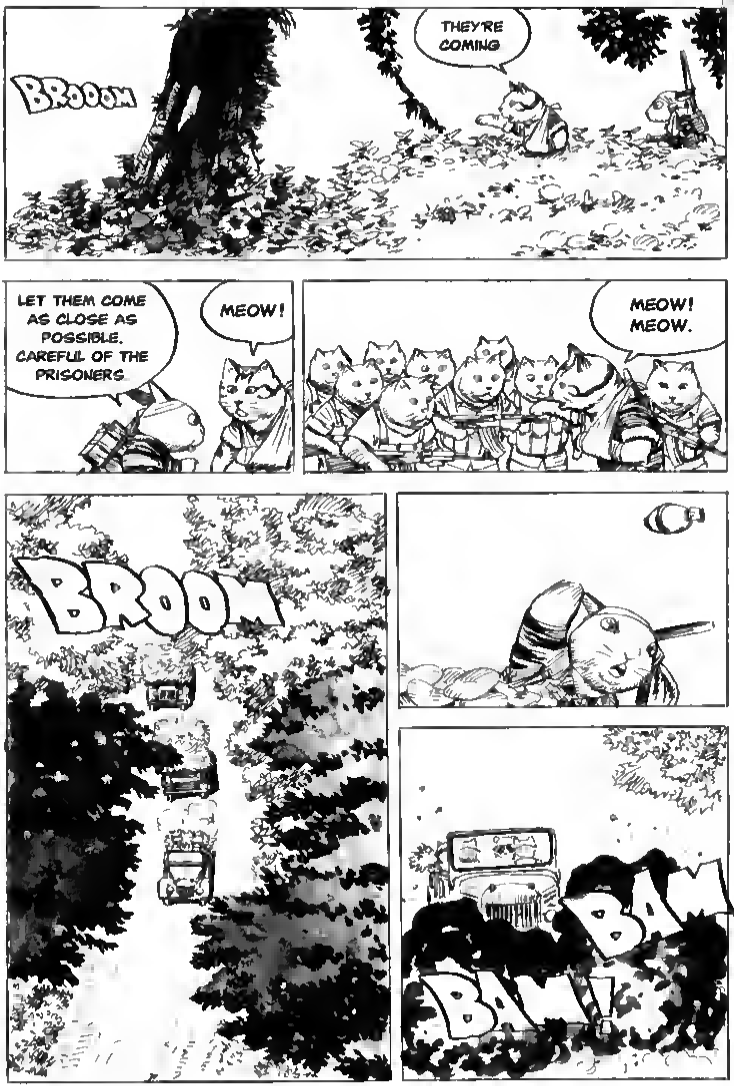
MEOW MEOW!
WHAT IS HE SAYING?
PAKI, BOTA LEFT ON TRUCK.
DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY GO.
WE GOTTA STOP THEM.
DON'T WORRY, FRIEND.
MY MEN STOP TRUCK.
DON'T WORRY, FRIEND.
BROOOM

OOOUCH!
YOU OKAY, BOTASKI?
IT HURTS WHEN THE TRUCK BOUNCES
SUCK IT UP!
BOOM!
WAAUGH!
DOM
!

NOW, BOTASKI! LET'S GO!
PAPAPAPAPAM!!
YOU SHOULD'VE GONE ALONE, PERKY!
THAT'S NOT HOW I DO THINGS.
KRAK!
STOP, PLEASE.
REMOVE THE TREE!
QUICKLY!

PA-PA-PAM
CEASE FIRE!
DON'T FALL INTO THEIR TRAP!
GUARD THE AREA.
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
TELEPHONE CABLE, BETWEEN SOUTH VIETNAM VIET CONG AND NORTH VIETNAM HANOI.
STOP THEM!
IT'LL ATTRACT ENEMY ATTENTION.
BOOM
IT'S STARTED. HURRY UP!

THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION CREWS HAVE FINISHED CLEARING THE WAY.
GOOD. WELL DONE.
MOVE OUT!
BROOOM!


BROOOM
THEY'RE COMING
LET THEM COME AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE. CAREFUL OF THE PRISONERS
MEOW!
MEOW! MEOW.
BROOM
BAM! BAM!

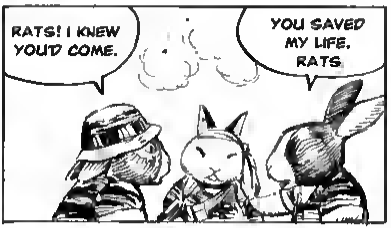
PAPAPAM!
PAPAPAPAM!
PAPAPAPAM!
ZIP
GET DOWN!
WAALIGH!
TOTOTONK!
PAPAPAPAM!
ZIP
ZIP
CHEEEAM!
TOTOTOTONK!
ZIP
PAPAPAPAM!
PAM!
ZIP
ZIP
PAPAPAM
PAPAM
PAPAPAM

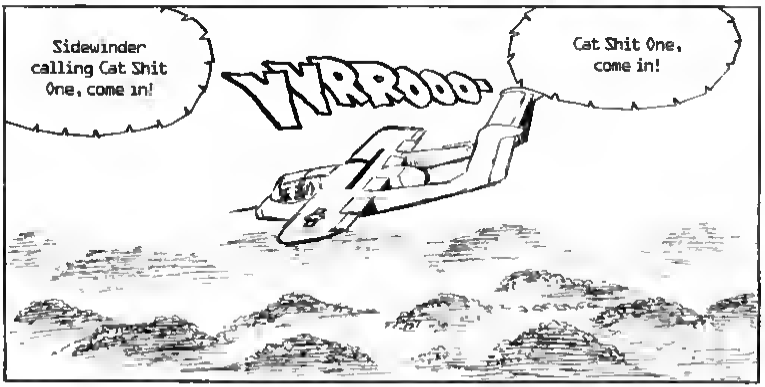
ZIP ZIP ZIP
CHEEEEW!

MEOW! (HOLD YOUR FIRE!)

DON'T MOVE!
DON'T SHOOT!
MEOW!

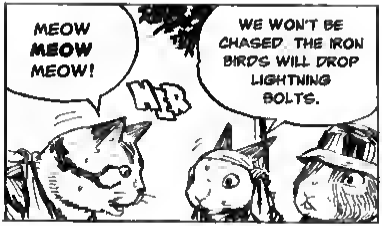
PERKY!


RATS! I KNEW YOU'D COME.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE, RATS.

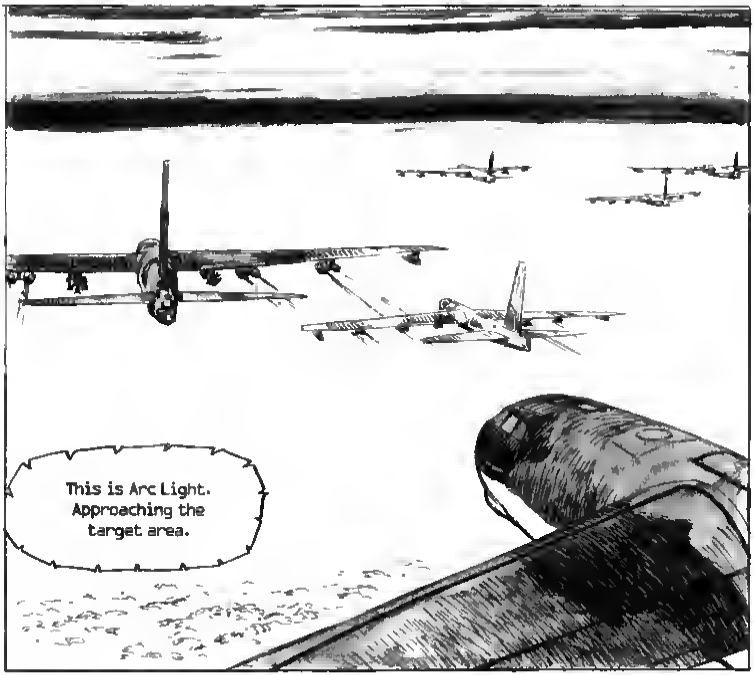

Sidewinder calling Cat Shit One, come in!
VRROOO-
Cat Shit One, come in!

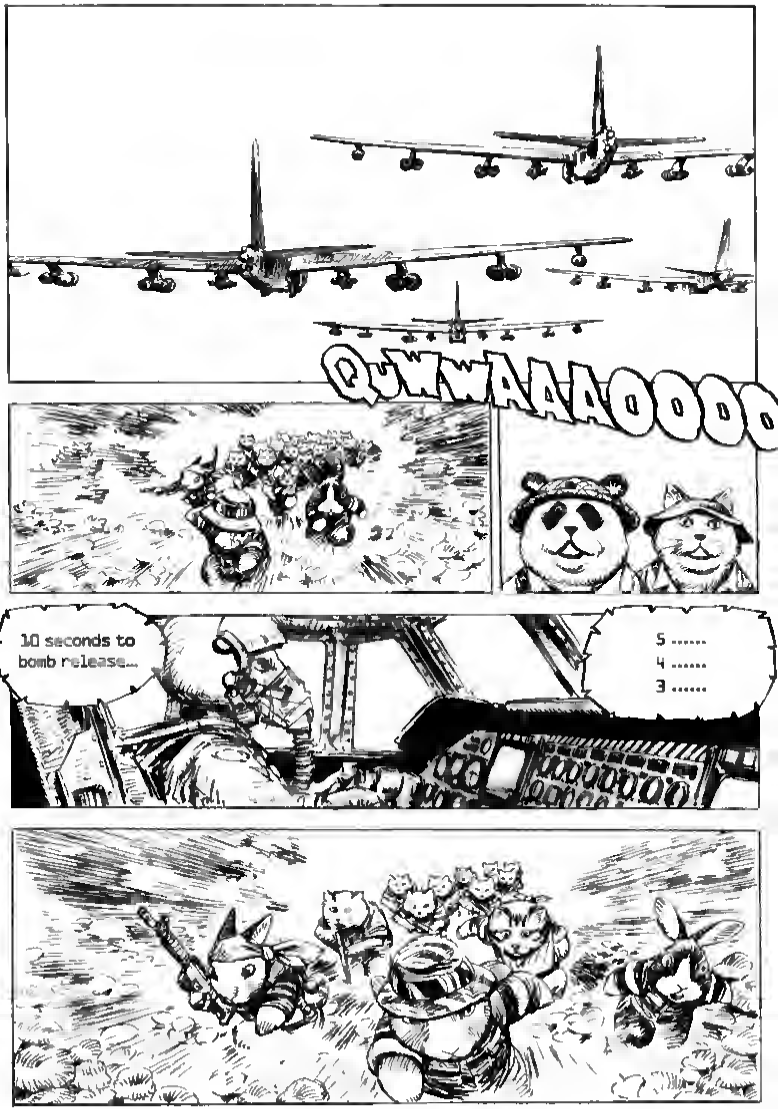
THIS IS CAT SHIT ONE.
WE READ YOU.
[10]B-52S! ARC LIGHT IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN TWO HOURS.
EVACUATE QUICKLY, BEFORE THE BOMBING STARTS.
ROGER!
MEOW!
DON'T KILL THEM, IT WOULD CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT.
CHICO, RUN QUICKLY.
MEOW!

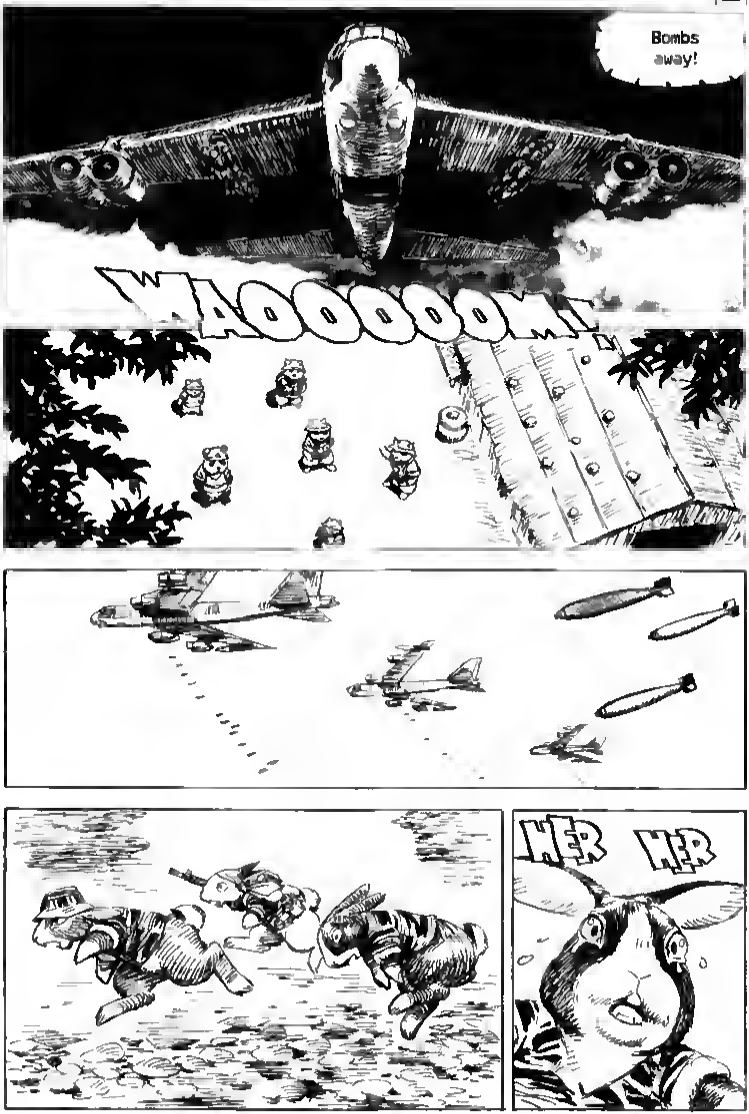
[10] B-52 • Boeing B-52 Stratofortress. Long range heavy bomber of the Strategic Air Command. "Arc Light" was the code name for B-52 bomber strikes

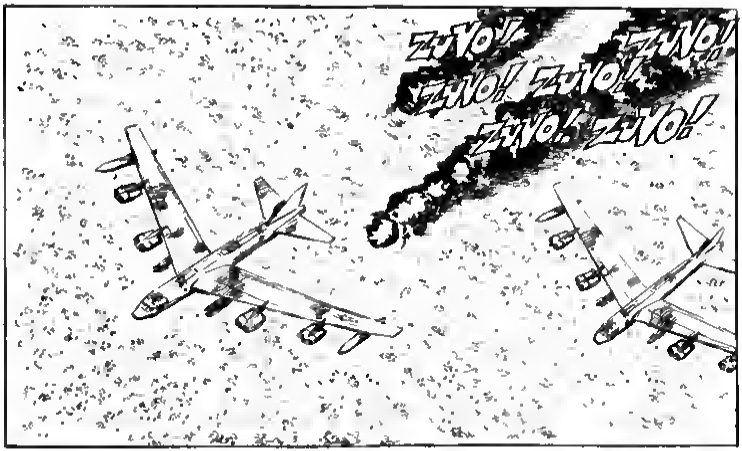

MEOW
MEOW
MEOW!
WE WON'T BE CHASED. THE IRON BIRDS WILL DROP LIGHTNING BOLTS.

This is Sidewinder. This area is now a no-fly zone.
We're withdrawing. Good luck, Cat Shit One.
VVRROOOM


This is Arc Light. Approaching the target area.


QUWAAAOOOO
10 seconds to bomb release...
5 .....
4 .....
3 .....


Bombs away!
WAOOOOOM!
HER HER

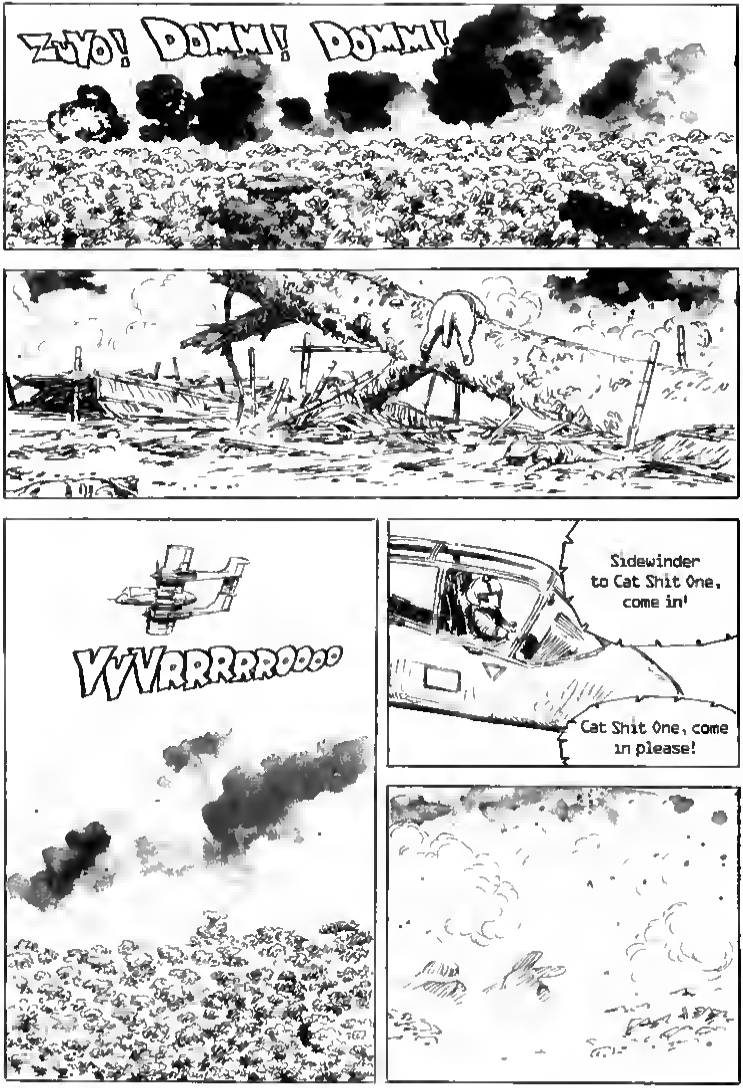

ZuVO!
ZuVO!
ZuVO!
ZuVO!
ZuVO!
ZuVO!

ZuVO!
DOMM!/DOMM!

DOMM!

ZuVO!

HUUUU
BAGOM!
BAKOM!!


ZYYO! DOMM! DOMM!
VVVRRRRROOOO
Sidewinder to Cat Shit One, come in!
Cat Shit One, come in please!

WHAP!
WHAPWHAP!
WELCOME BACK!
THANK YOU, SIR!
HA HA HA!
GO RELAX.
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, BOTA?
LET'S GO, BOTASKI!
HA HA HA!
HE GOT HIT ON THE HEAD.
GOOD JOB, RATS!
WE OWE IT TO CHICO.
MEOW MEOW!

The Vietnam War and the Origins of the Recon Team

"America's full scale involvement in the Vietnam War started in March 1965 when the US Marine Corps landed in Danang." The story of the War in Vietnam usually starts something like this. In reality however the United States had been involved in affairs in Southeast Asia (Indochina) since the WWII Pacific War (1941 to 1945).

During the First Indochina War (1946 to 1954) the US secretly supported France. However during the Pacific War the US supported the Communist Guerillas lead by Ho Chi Minh who were fighting against Japan.

Later during the Second Indochina War (around 1961 to 1975) or the Vietnam War the United States openly supported France. America became completely and militarily involved in the war following the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964. In response (and fearing Communist infiltration in the midst of the Cold War) various countries such as Korea, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, and Taiwan also sent soldiers to Vietnam.

Although neighboring Cambodia and Laos were politically neutral sanctuaries, the main route from North Vietnam to supply the war fronts in South Vietnam was located along the border regions of these countries. Cambodia remained a sanctuary but in Laos a "secret war" led by the CIA continued to be fought behind the curtain of the Vietnam War.

The United States developed a strong need to have special recon teams to gather intelligence on enemy ground movements prior to the deployment of major units. "Project Delta" was initiated to develop, train and operate these special teams.

Project Delta

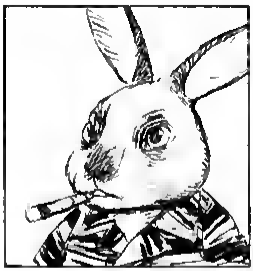
Major Charlie Beckwith, who was trained by the British SAS (Special Air Service) as one of the first participants in an exchange program, took over "Project Delta" in June 1965. Commanded by Major Beckwith the 5th Special Forces Group (A), Detachment B-52 was formed by soldiers who volunteered from various Special Forces bases throughout South Vietnam. All of the volunteers were required to go through a simple selection process and then went through basic training.

The selection standards for the candidates were first of all physical fitness, secondly map reading ability, thirdly marksmanship and lastly the ability to follow and execute orders correctly and without question.

One month later Project Delta was formed and recon teams consisting of US Special Forces members and Vietnamese Rangers were deployed.

The mission of the recon teams of Project Delta was to conduct recon naissance missions into the Viet Cong controlled areas of South Vietnam and locate enemy bases. The intelligence collected by these recon teams was used to organize major air strikes to destroy enemy bases. This mission later developed into search and destroy operations.

On October 19 1965 a situation developed which required a search and destroy operation and long distance recon. The US Special Forces Camp at Plei Me was surrounded by at least two (though some sources say three) full regiments of the North Vietnamese Army. By the 22nd three days later Project Delta and two South Vietnamese Ranger companies



under the command of Major Beckwith arrived to assist in the rescue mission On the 25th the 1st Cavalry Division arrived, and the Special Forces camp at Plei Me was rescued.

At about the same time a recon team consisting of two Green Berets and three Chinese Yards lead by Captain Bo Gritz (Beckwith s deputy) located an NVA supply depot in Ia Drang Valley west of Plei Me There was no doubt that the NVA was there after withdrawing from their attack on the Plei Me Special Forces camp.

Disregarding the warning from Bo Gritz, the War Tactical Center of the 1st Cavalry Division executed "Operation Silver Bayonet" on November 14 1965 In accordance with the Army's standard operating procedure there was an air assault on the LZ for one hour then 30 minutes of fire by gunships, and finally the 1st Cavalry Division 1st Battalion and 7th Cavalry were air lifted by helicopter into the war zone

Thus began the historic Battle of Ia Drang One battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division was met by an NVA ambush The US had to send an additional battalion for support.

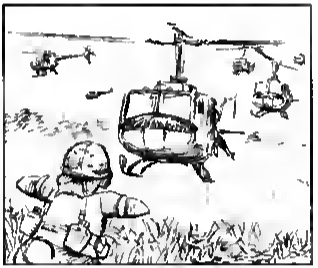
This bitter battle lasted for five days and the NVA withdrew to political sanctuary near the Cambodian border after suffering more than 1,300 casualties. (The number lost by the 1st Cavalry Division has not been published, but it is thought to be 200 to 300) To improve combat efficiency General Westmoreland, Commander of the MACV initiated the formation of the LRRP (Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol)

Delta Force the special anti-terrorism unit has its origins in Charlie Beckwith s Project Delta.

The Japanese Self Defense Forces in the Vietnam War

During the war Japan played the role of a support base for the US military It offered logistical support in the form of repairing military vehicles giving medical care to the wounded, supplying fuel and ammunition and manufacturing Napalm Civilian medical groups were also active but the only official record available states that the Defense Agency dispatched a survey mission to South Vietnam in September 1966

For a long time now I've heard rumors that the Self-Defense Forces were deployed in the Vietnam War I have even heard one outrageous opinion that the Self-Defense Forces had operated and tested Model 74 tanks in actual combat



It is a fact that the government of Taiwan sent 40 military advisors beginning in 1965 and if that IS the case it would not be unusual to expect the Japanese government to deploy the Self-Defense Forces.

This rumor has existed for some time When I asked a certain person for an interview to talk about this topic he refused to comment When I insisted he went on saying that he would lose his pension and even said that he would be assassinated if he opened his mouth

There is no public record that some selected Airborne Rangers the pick of the Self Defense Forces, entered Vietnam after "retirement"

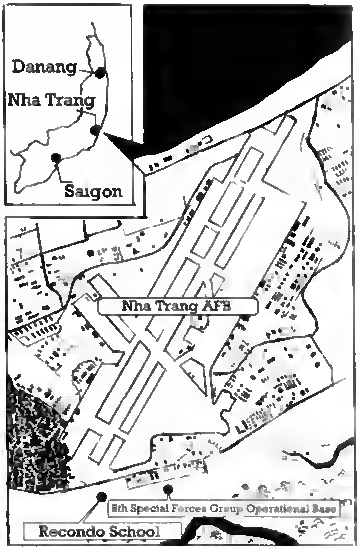
by way of the United States, or that forty to sixty soldiers were deployed, or that some of them were killed. The episode at the beginning of this book, where Perky and his team fight in Vietnam along with the "monkey army" (the Self-Defense Forces) is however entirely fiction

I assume the deployment of the Self Defense Forces is factual. All the pertinent information is kept either deep at the Defense Agency, at the Airborne Memorial Museum, or locked in a safe belonging to the commander of the Airborne Troop

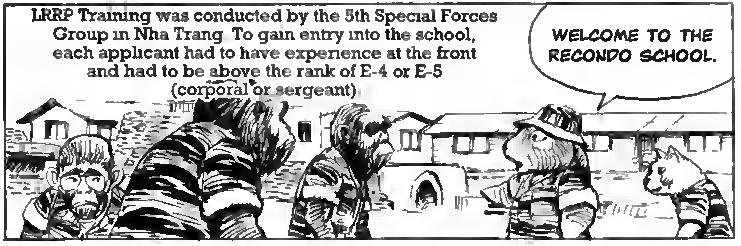
Also this is my personal opinion, but I feel it is about time for the information regarding this matter to be published.

For all of those soldiers who lost their lives in Vietnam

LRRP TRAINING



LRRP Training was conducted by the 5th Special Forces Group in Nha Trang. To gain entry into the school, each applicant had to have experience at the front and had to be above the rank of E-4 or E-5 (corporal or sergeant).



The infantry divisions and the infantry brigades were authorized to form LRRP platoons, and these were sent to the MACV Recondo School for training. In 1967, LRRP platoons were expanded to company size. Each class at the Recondo School had around 120 students, of which 85 or so would graduate. The first week of training was classroom instruction, and reveille was at 4:00 am.

Instruction included map reading and ground navigation using a compass.

Medical training, such as administration of anesthetics, IV, bandaging, etc.

Repair and maintenance of both US and enemy firearms.

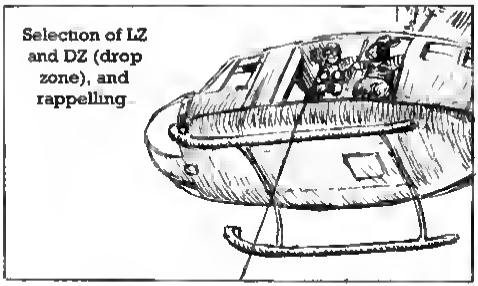
Selection of LZs (Landing Zones), communication skills, and code name assignment.

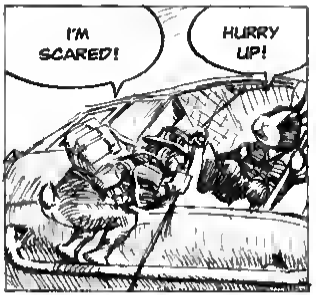
Camera operation

Silent infiltration techniques.

The second week of the LRRP training was conducted at Hon Tre, an uninhabited island across from Nha Trang. This part of training put all the lessons learned in the classroom into practice, such as weapons use, setting explosives, and placing Claymore anti-personnel landmines

Selection of LZ and DZ (drop zone), and rappelling



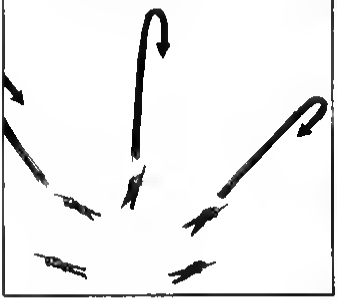


Actual firing of weapons, and combat response techniques.
TOTOTOTONK!
RAKK BLAM!
In the third week of LRRP training, participants were redeployed behind enemy lines for an actual reconnaissance mission, as a field test
I DON'T WANT TO!

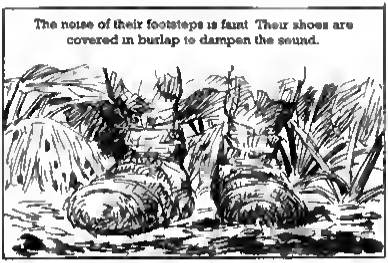
Phantoms of the Jungle

The Battle of Sergeant Van Droffelaar, Australian SAS

Sergeant Joe Van Droffelaar of the Australian SAS gives the hand signal to his team to take attack formation, and then each man moves 30 meters forward, without a word.



The noise of their footsteps is faint. Their shoes are covered in burlap to dampen the sound.



The Corporal found something
Van Droffelaar moves his arm rapidly
Bingo! They found a main trunk of the Ho Chi Minh Trail. It's close to the Vietnamese border with Cambodia.
The smell of human urine stands out in the jungle. The scraping noise of metal also
He looked for a slightly raised area, good for an ambush line.
Van Droffelaar placed Claymores along the road.

The Australian SAS was born in 1957 as the SAS Company of the Royal Australian Regiment. Later, in 1964, it became an independent SAS Regiment with various supporting units. They were deployed to Borneo along with Gurkha soldiers to fight with leftist guerrillas (in reality they were from the Indonesian Army) led by President Soekarno. During this time, they became masters of jungle warfare.

The first deployment of the Australian Army in Vietnam was in 1965, when they sent 1,400 soldiers. However, Australian Army training advisers had been dispatched to South Vietnam since 1962, and Australia announced it had ceased involvement in January of 1973

The Australian Army unit dispatched to Vietnam was called the 1st Australian Task Force (1ATF). It was a brigade-sized formation comprised of the No. 6 Infantry Regiment and an armored troop. It was under the command of the US Army at MACV, and fought in Phuoc Tuy Province, located southeast of Saigon

In addition, the Australian Air Force flew approximately ten Canberra light bombers under the command of the US Air Force, and the Australian Navy deployed three missile destroyers under command of the US Navy.

46 832 Australian soldiers served in Vietnam, and in December 1967, at the peak of the Australian deployment into the country, there were 7,672 Australians stationed there. Losses included at least 492 dead (though the number may be slightly over 500), 2,398 wounded and $500 million Australian dollars spent. As for distinguished services during the war, four Victoria crosses and other various decorations were issued.

An Australian SAS Company conducted recon missions for the 1st Australian Task Force and also engaged in secret missions under the command of the MACV-SOG. Later, the Australian SAS were feared as "Phantoms of the Jungle" by the Viet Cong. The MACV-SOG tried to study and acquire the reconnaissance techniques of the Australian SAS, but failed.

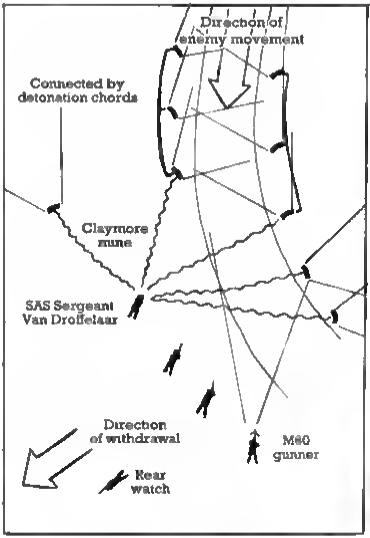
Sergeant Joe Van Droffelaar of the SAS stated. "Americans could not develop their ground navigation techniques to our level and tended to rely on photographs. In the tropical jungle, especially during rainy season, the terrain changes."

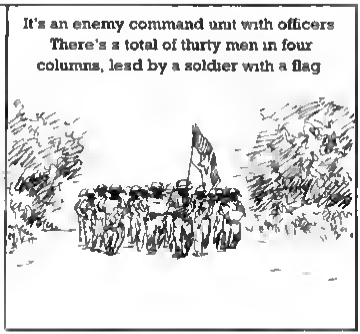
"The biggest problem is the noise Americans make. During silent infiltration, you can't make any noise. Noisy chatting, the smell of tobacco, and the fragrance of deodorants travel 400 meters in all directions in the jungle."

"That's the reason why American Special Operations units got into so much danger. Capable jungle fighters have to become part of the jungle in order to survive. Patrol missions should be conducted in complete silence for many days."

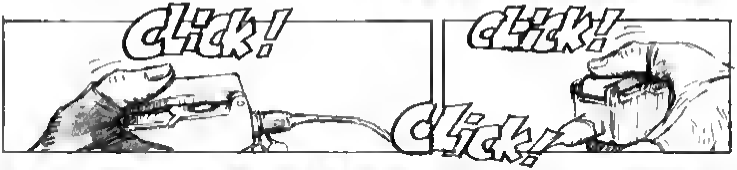
The following day, early in the morning, the forward patrol reported. He heard the footsteps and voices of a large number of people.

It's about to start!


Direction of enemy movement
Connected by detonation chords
Claymore mine
SAS Sergeant Van Droffelaar
Direction of withdrawal
Rear watch
M60 gunner


It's an enemy command unit with officers
There's a total of thirty men in four columns, lead by a soldier with a flag

Bring them in very close and detonate the Claymores


CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!

BAKOM!

BAKOM!
PAPAPAPAPAPAPAM!
KTOWKTOWKTOWKTOWKTOWKTOW
BAM!
GYAAA!
WAAUGH!
BABABAM
BABABAM!
HOLD YOUR FIRE!

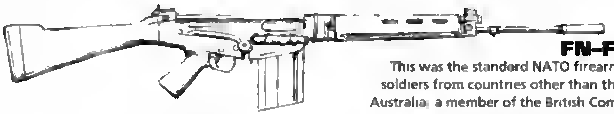
Recover any documents from enemy officers
!
WITHDRAW!
ZIP ZIP
P.P.P.M
KOW KOW KOW KOW KOW
ECHO SIX! WITHDRAWING!
PAPAM PAPAM

Click!
BAKOM!
SET UP A BOOBY TRAP HERE.
DOM!
During the seven years the Australian SAS was deployed in Vietnam, only one soldier was killed in action. According to Sergeant Van Droffelaar of the SAS, the son of a submarine admiral, "Ninety percent of the time, we spotted an approaching enemy before they spotted us."

THE Austrailian SAS

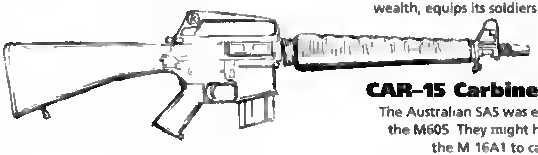
Weapons of the Australian SAS

Though trained by the British SAS the Australian SAS was every bit as competent as its counterpart During the Vietnam War three companies took turns engaging in missions The main firearm of the Australian Army is the FAL the same as the British However, in Vietnam they also used the M-16 for close combat The M-16's small caliber was fast and favorable in close quarter fighting, but Lithgow SLRs loaded with NATO rounds had superior penetration in dense woods Special Forces operatives were granted the freedom to choose their own weapons, and Sergeant Van Droffelaar of the SAS preferred the AK, the Communists' main firearm A British SAS team is comprised of four men, but the Australian SAS has four to six men in a team Their uniform is also similar to the British The above illustration shows early Australian SAS members and their uniforms are of leaf pattern camouflage The gloves and scarves are green mesh, and their guns are spray-painted There is much more attention to camouflage compared to American uniforms



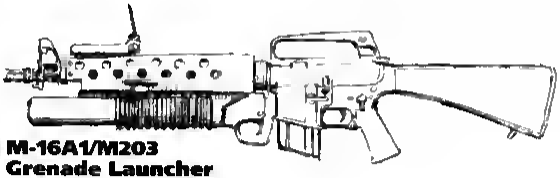
FN-FAL

This was the standard NATO firearm, for soldiers from countries other than the US Australia a member of the British Common wealth, equips its soldiers with the FAL



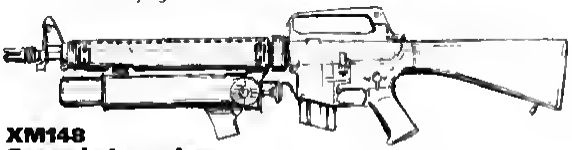
CAR-15 Carbine (M605)

The Australian SAS was equipped with the M605 They might have modified the M 16A1 to carbine length



M-16A1/M203 Grenade Launcher

Its comparatively shorter barrel makes for easier use in the jungle

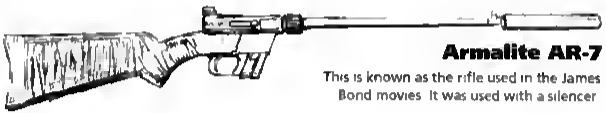


XM148 Grenade Launcher

The forerunner of the M203 grenade launcher Like the M 16A1, it has a shorter barrel

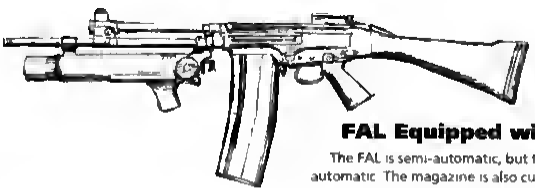
Sterling SMG

A Sterling Mk5 equipped with a silencer and XM148 grenade launcher



Armalite AR-7

This is known as the rifle used in the James Bond movies It was used with a silencer



FAL Equipped with XM148

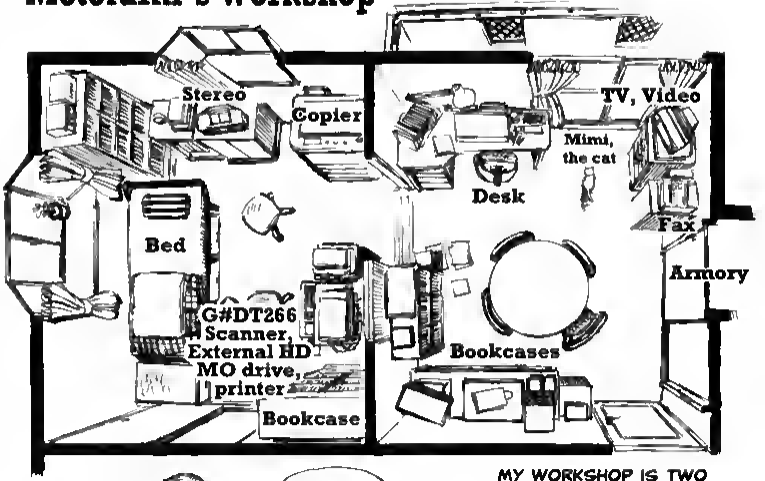
The FAL is semi-automatic, but this model is fully automatic The magazine is also customized to hold 30 rounds, and it is fitted with the XM148 grenade launcher This is a good example of how in combat the right firepower is all important

THAT THE BABE EDITOR WOULD REALLY LIKE IT.
THE STAFF AT COMIC GON SAID...
WHY ARE YOU PUTTING A SAUSAGE THERE?
IF YOU WANT TO CATCH ME, BECOME STRONGER THAN ME, DAD.
I'D ALSO LIKE TO TRY AN SF OR MEDIEVAL PIECE.
THAT COULDN'T BE TRUE. I WISH I HAD TIME TO WORK ON A STORY WITH SWORDS AND SORCERY, LIKE "CONAN."
HER HER HER
I'VE ONLY PLAYED TWICE THIS YEAR.
I WANT TO PLAY SURVIVAL GAMES, TOO
UH-OH! IT'S THE DEADLINE. HURRY! GOTTA HURRY FOR SOFT BANK, TOO!
CAN I PLAY WITH YOU GUYS?
COMBAT MAGAZINE IS CALLING US! IT'S OUR TURN!
HER HER HER

Please read this section starting from p.134.
Right to left as traditional Manga.

!
OF COURSE NOT! MR. KOBAYASHI!
I BET YOU THINK YOU BEAT ME BECAUSE YOU MARRIED MY DAUGHTER.
NAKAMURA!
I'M SURE THERE'RE LOTS OF THINGS GOING ON...
OUCH!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? YOU HAVE NO EDUCATION, NO CULTURE
OOUCH!
HEY, NAKAMURA!
IT'S NAKAMURA, THE MONKEY!
AH!
HE'S ONE OF us!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, RABBIT?!
WHAT! INTERVIEW?! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
Aah! I want to play a game...
SIR, THE COMIC CON PEOPLE ARE HERE FOR THE INTERVIEW
WHERE'D THAT DUMBASS GO? IT'S HIS TURN NEXT.
HEH HEH HEH YOU MORONS!

Motofumi's Workshop



MY WORKSHOP IS TWO 6 TATAMI-MAT ROOMS (105 SQUARE FEET EACH). SINCE I DON'T HAVE TIME TO CLEAN, IT IS MESSY.

NO ONE ASKED **YOU** TO COME.
HELLO, MR. KOBAYASHI IT'S BEEN A WHILE, YOU'RE LOOKING VERY WELL.
WATCH IT, OR YOU'LL LOSE YOUR REGULAR CONTRACT
THAT'S NAKAMURA. WHY IS HE HERE?

Cat Shit One

About thirty years ago at the height of the Vietnam War the words "inhumane weapon" attracted the attention of the mass media. I was a high school student then. They talked about a kind of bomb used against the Viet Cong. When this bomb exploded it burned up the entire oxygen supply in the tunnel where the Viet Cong were, and they died from asphyxiation. Thus it was deemed an "inhumane weapon."

We now know it was a "fuel-air bomb." The entire media in those days was enveloped in an atmosphere of outrage at "the use of inhumane weapons by the US."

If we call that an "inhumane weapon," what is a "humane weapon"? Would it be gentle to humans?

There has never been a "humane weapon" in the history of the world.

Rocks and clubs became bows and arrows, and they evolved into guns and cannons in the medieval ages. The industrial revolution and the development of physics helped improve the range and accuracy of weapons, but the pain humans suffer from them hasn't changed at all. The difference is that the kill rate has increased, and either the victims die for sure, or if they're lucky, they're wounded. The pain is the same.

Nuclear weapons might be considered more "humane" because they kill without the victims even knowing what happened to them, but the damage is far worse because of the effects of radiation on the environment. This is not "humane" either. These weapons are inherently "inhumane."

The fuel-air bomb was originally developed to clear jungles for helicopter landing zones. Its explosive power is far more than conventional explosives, and its shockwave and blast clear the surface without making gaping holes. In addition, it has an EMP effect, and destroys all the electronic circuits by producing a huge electromagnetic pulse. Its destructive power is similar to a nuclear weapon without the radiation. It is referred to as a "petit nuclear weapon."

During the Gulf War, the fuel-air bomb was effective in breaching minefields and destroying Iraqi military bases. Some in the media called it "the poor man's nuclear weapon," but to be precise, this description refers to biological or chemical weapons.

This second volume of *Apocalypse Meow* was originally scheduled to be published in June, but it was held off due to a delay in the completion of the additional chapters. I take full responsibility for the delay and apologize to Mr. Sato, the editor in charge, and all other people involved for all the trouble. I realize this is an excuse, but the reason I was late is that I don't wish to cut corners. I will put all my effort into the next book, too.

In addition, I have a message to my friends on the "Channel 2" military bulletin board. You truly are a group of tough guys. I don't know which thread it was, but I found a fine statement. "We did not become military geeks. We were born military geeks."

In closing, I would like to dedicate this book to all the rabbits and cats in the world.

Summer of extreme heat, 2000

Motofumi Kobayashi